Brigham Young's *Teachings on the* Adam-God Doctrine

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The Adam-God Doctrine

Combined Sermons of Brigham Young on Adam

Brigham Young gave over 30 sermons on Adam, in a period of 25 years. As he never gave all of the details of what he believed in one single sermon, this is an attempt to compile all of his unique teachings into one text, as if he were explaining it from begging to end.[1]

President Brigham Young, 1852-1877
from the Journal of Discourses & Manuscript Addresses

Now, let all who may hear these doctrines, pause before they make light of them, or treat them with indifference, for they will prove their salvation or damnation.[2] It[3] will be a curse to many of the elders of Israel because of their folly with regard to it."[4]

Adam's birth

When you tell me that father Adam was made as we make adobes from the earth, you tell me what I deem an idle tale. When you tell me that the beasts of the field were produced in that manner, you are speaking idle words devoid of meaning. There is no such thing in all the eternities where the Gods dwell.[5]

Did the Lord put into him his spirit? Yes, as the Lord put into you your spirit, he was begotten of a father, and brought forth as you and I were;[6] He was made just the same way you and I are made, but on another earth. ... He had lived on an earth similar to ours.[7]

Though we have it in history that our father Adam was made of the dust of this earth, and that he knew nothing about his God previous to being made here, yet it is not so; ... Adam was made from the dust of an earth, but not from the dust of this earth."[8]

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1 Note: as Adam's role as Michael and the Ancient of Days is not disputed by modern Latter-day Saints, it has not been included.
2 9 April 1852, Journal of Discourses 1:50-1.
3 Orig. "that"
4 8 October 1854, Manuscript Addresses, vol. 2.
5 9 October 1859, Journal of Discourses 7:285-286.
6 8 October 1854, Manuscript Addresses, vol. 2.
7 7 Feb 1877, L.J. Nuttall Journal.
8 20 Apr 1856, Journal of Discourses 3:319.

Adam's mortal life[1]

He was made of the dust of the earth where he lived, where he honored his calling, believed in his Saviour, or Elder Brother, ...[2] *He* had been with the *his*[3] Lord and had lived with him upon an earth like this and had been faithful and overcome, ... and was well acquainted with the Lord and was one of his 'mess mates.[4]'[5]

"He had received the Priesthood and the keys thereof, and had been faithful in all things[6] He did abide his creation, and did honor to his calling and Priesthood. He obeyed his Master or Lord, and probably many of his wives did the same; they lived and died upon an earth, and then were resurrected again to immortality and eternal life.[7]

Heavenly Father of Spirits

In the Celestial Kingdom *Adam and Eve*[8] were crowned with glory, immortality and eternal lives, with thrones, principalities and powers: and it was said to him, 'It is your right to organize the elements; and to your creations and posterity there shall be no end, but you shall add kingdom to kingdom, and throne to throne; and still behold the vast eternity of unorganized matter.'"[9]

Some have grumbled because I believe our God to be so near to us as Father Adam. There are many who know that doctrine to be true.[10]

Adam is the Father of our spirits ... and the spirits of all the human family were begotten by Adam and born of Eve [in the celestial world[11]]. ... I tell you, when you see your Father in the Heavens, you will see Adam; when you see your Mother that bore your spirit, you will see Mother Eve.[12] Father Adam's oldest son (Jesus the Saviour) who is the heir of the family, is father Adam's first begotten in the spirit world, who according to the flesh is the only begotten as it is written.[13]

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1 See page 13 for more information.
2 8 October 1854, Manuscript Addresses, vol. 2.
3 Orig. "Adam" & "the"
4 i.e. they shared mealtimes together.
5 25 Apr 1855, Manuscript Addresses, vol. 3.
6 Lecture at the Veil, 7 Feb 1877, L. John Nuttall Journal.
7 8 October 1854, Manuscript Addresses, vol. 2.
8 Orig. "they"
9 8 October 1854, Manuscript Addresses, vol. 2.
10 7 October 1857, Journal of Discourses 5:331)
11 7 Feb 1877, L.J. Nuttall Journal.
12 8 October 1854, Manuscript Addresses, vol. 2.
13 7 Feb 1877, L.J. Nuttall Journal.

Organizing the World

We say that Father Adam came here and helped to make the earth. Who is he? He is Michael, a great prince, and it was said to him by Eloheim, 'Go ye and make an earth.'[1] Elohim, Yahovah and Michael were Father, Son and Grandson.[2] They made this Earth and Michael became Adam.[3] He was the first man on the earth, and its framer and maker. He, with the help of his brethren, brought it into existence.[4]

Adam and Eve[5] came here, organized the raw material, and arranged in their order the herbs of the field, the trees, the apple, the peach, the plum, the pear, and every other fruit that is desirable and good for man; the seed was brought from another sphere, and planted in this earth.[6]

Then *Adam*[7] said, "I want my children who are in the spirit world to come and live here. I once dwelt upon an earth something like this, in a mortal state. I was faithful, I received my crown and exaltation. I have the privilege of extending my work, and to its increase there will be no end. I want my children that were born to me in the spirit world to come here and take tabernacles of flesh, that their spirits may have a house, a tabernacle or a dwelling place as mine has," and where is the mystery?[8]

Eating the Fruits

Adam and Eve when they were placed on this earth were immortal beings with flesh, bones, sinews.[9] As soon as the devil was on earth he sowed the seeds of death in everything so as soon as they began to eat of the fruit of the earth they received into their system the seeds of mortality and of death so their children were mortal & subject to death, sorrow, pain and wo.[10]

Upon partaking of the fruits of the earth while in the garden and cultivating the ground their bodies became changed from immortal to

1 8 Jun 1873, Deseret News.
2 This is speaking of beings in the office of Jehovah and Eloheim before this earth.
3 Joseph F. Smith Journal, 17 June 1871. See 7 Feb 1877, L.J. Nuttall Journal.
4 8 Jun 1873, Deseret News.
5 Orig. "they"
6 9 April 1852, Journal of Discourses 1:50, see 20 April 1856, Journal of Discourses 3:319.
7 Orig. "he"
8 8 June 1873, Manuscript Addresses, vol. 6. See page 20 for more info, and TPJS, p. 354.
9 7 February 1877, L.J. Nuttall Journal.
10 6 May 1855, W. Woodruff Journal.

mortal beings with the blood coursing through their veins as the action of life.[1] Adam ... agreed to fall when he came here, and he fell that man might be.[2] I do not blame Mother Eve, I would not have had her miss eating the forbidden fruit for anything in the world.[3]

We are the Children of Adam and Eve

Adam[4] commenced the work of creating earthly tabernacles, precisely as He had been created in this flesh himself, by partaking of the course material that was organized and composed this earth, until His system was charged with it, consequently the tabernacles of His children were organized from the coarse materials of this earth.[5]

Do you not all know that you are the sons and daughters of the Almighty? If you do not I will inform you this morning that there is not a man or woman on the earth that is not a son or daughter of Adam and Eve. We all belong to the races which have sprung from father Adam and mother Eve; and every son and daughter of Adam and Eve is a son and daughter of that God we serve.[6] We are his children, literally, spiritually, naturally, and in every respect."[7]

Adam was as conversant with his Father who placed him upon this earth as we are conversant with our earthly parents. The Father frequently came to visit his son Adam, and talked and walked with him; and the children of Adam were more or less acquainted with their Grandfather, and their children were more or less acquainted with their Great-Grandfather." [8]

Jesus, the Son of Adam

When the time came that His first-born, the Saviour, should come into the world and take a tabernacle the Father came Himself and favoured that spirit with a tabernacle instead of letting any other man do it. The Saviour was begotten by the Father of His spirit, by the same Being who is the Father of our spirits, and that is all the organic

1 7 February 1877, L.J. Nuttall Journal.
2 6 May 1855, W. Woodruff Journal.
3 8 June 1873, Deseret News.
4 Orig. "he"
5 8 February 1857, Journal of Discourses 4:217.
6 7 May 1871, Journal of Discourses 14:111-112.
7 21 May 1871, Journal of Discourses 14:135-136.
8 date? Journal of Discourses 9:148.

difference between Jesus Christ and you and me."[1]

When the Virgin Mary conceived the child Jesus, the Father had begotten him in his own likeness. He was not begotten by the Holy Ghost. And who is the Father? He is the first of the human family ... Jesus, our elder brother, was begotten in the flesh by the same character that was in the garden of Eden, and who is our Father in Heaven.[2] Adam was ... the Father of Jesus Christ.[3]

We Can Become Adams & Eves / Eternal Fathers & Mothers

After men have got their exaltations and their crowns – have become Gods, even the sons of God – are made Kings of kings and Lords of lords, they have the power then of propagating their species in spirit; and that is the first of their operations with regard to organizing a world. Power is then given to them to organize the elements, and then commence the organization of tabernacles. How can they do it? Have they to go to that earth? Yes, an Adam will have to go there, and he cannot do without Eve; he must have Eve to commence the work of generation, and they will go into the garden, and continue to eat and drink of the fruits of the corporeal world, until this grosser matter is diffused sufficiently through their celestial bodies to enable them, according to the established laws, to produce mortal tabernacles for their spiritual children.[4]

If you look at things spiritually, and then naturally, and see how they appear together, you will understand that when you have the privilege of commencing the work that Adam commenced on this earth, you will have all your children come and report to you of their sayings and acts; and you will hold every son and daughter of yours responsible when you get the privilege of being an Adam on earth.

Suppose that one of us had been Adam, and had peopled and filled the world with our children, they, although they might be great grandchildren, &c., still, say I, had I been Adam, they would be my flesh, blood, and bones, and have the same kind of a spirit put into them that is in me. And pertaining to the flesh they would all be my children, and I would call them to account, and by and bye I would call every one of them home.[5]

Then will we[6] become Gods, even the sons of God; then will

1 8 February 1857, Journal of Discourses 4:218.
2 9 April 1852, Journal of Discourses 1:50-51.
3 17 September 1854, Wilford Woodruff Journal.
4 28 August 1862, Journal of Discourses 6:275.
5 8 March 1857, Journal of Discourses 4:271.
6 Orig. "they"

they become eternal fathers, eternal mothers, eternal sons and eternal daughters; being eternal in their organization they go from glory to glory, from power to power; they will never cease to increase and to multiply, worlds without end. When they receive their crowns, their dominions, they then will be prepared to frame earths like unto ours and to people them in the same manner as we have been brought forth by our parents, by our Father and God.[1]

Whence Cometh This Doctrine?

[Yet] how much unbelief exists in the minds of the Latter-day Saints in regard to one particular doctrine which I revealed to them, and which God revealed to me - namely that Adam is our Father and God.[2] I tell you this about my belief about that personage who is called the Ancient of Days ... I did not understand so until my mind became so enlightened with the Spirit and by the revelations of God.[3] What I know concerning God, ... I have received from the heavens, not alone through my natural ability.[4]

I could not find any man on earth who could tell me this, although it is one of the most simplest things in the world, until I met and talked with Joseph Smith.[5] It was Joseph's doctrine that Adam was God ... Joseph could not reveal what was revealed to him.[6]

These things of which I have been speaking are what are termed the mysteries of godliness but they will enable you to understand the expression of Jesus, made while in Jerusalem, "This is life eternal that they might know thee, the only true God and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent."[7]

Whether you receive these things or not, I tell you them in simplicity. I lay them before you like a child, because they are perfectly simple. If you see and understand these things, it will be by the Spirit of God; you will receive them by no other spirit. No matter whether they are told to you like the thunderings of the Almighty or by simple conversation; if you enjoy the Spirit of the Lord, it will tell you whether they are right or not. I am acquainted with my Father. I am as confident that I understand in part, see in part, and know and am acquainted with

1 8 October 1876, Journal of Discourses 18:259.
2 18 June 1873, Deseret News.
3 25 April 1855, Deseret Theological Institute.
4 18 May 1873, Journal of Discourses 16:45-46.
5 18 June 1873, Deseret Weekly News 22:308.
6 Brigham Young Papers, Meeting of Quorum of Twelve, 4 April 1860.
7 7 February 1877, L.J. Nuttall Journal.

Him in part, as I am that I was acquainted with my earthly father ... I know my Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ whom He has sent, and this is eternal life.[1]

1 8 February 1857, Journal of Discourses 4:218.

Summary of Brigham's Teachings on Adam

He was not literally created from the dust of this earth but was born in the same manner as everyone else

Procreation is the only method of creating human life

"no person was ever made upon any other principle." *(20 Apr 1856, JD 3:319)*

"He created man, as we create our children; for there is no other process of creation in heaven, on the earth, in the earth, or under the earth, or in all the eternities, that is, that were, or that ever will be." *(18 Jun 1865, JD 11:122)*

Adam was not literally created from the dust of this earth

"You believe Adam was made of the dust of this earth. This I do not believe," *(23 Oct 1853, JD 2:6)*

"Was he made of the dust of this earth?" No, but of the dust of the earth whereon he was born in the flesh; that is the way he was made; he was made of dust. ... I say he was not made of the dust of the ground of this Earth, but he was made of the dust of the earth where he lived," *(8 Oct 1854, B.Y. Addresses 2:231)*

"Adam and Eve were made of the dust of the Earth from which they came, they brought their bodies with them." *(25 Mar 1855, Samuel W. Richards Journal)*

"Though we have it in history that our father Adam was made of the dust of this earth, and that he knew nothing about his God previous to being made here, yet it is not so; ... Adam was made from the dust of an earth, but not from the dust of this earth." *(20 Apr 1856, JD 3:319)*

"When you tell me that father Adam was made as we make adobes from the earth, you tell me what I deem an idle tale. When you tell me that the beasts of the field were produced in that manner, you are speaking idle words devoid of meaning. There is no such thing in all the eternities where the Gods dwell. Mankind are here because they are the offspring

of parents who were first brought here from another planet." (*9 Oct 1859, JD 7:285-286)*

"We have heard a great deal about Adam and Eve; how they were formed and etc. Some think he was made like an adobe and the Lord breathed into him the breath of life, for we read: "from dust thou art and unto dust shalt thou return." Well, he was made of the dust of the earth, but not of this earth." *(7 Feb 1877, L. J. Nuttall Journal)*

Adam was born (as we are)

"Did the Lord put into him his spirit?" Yes, as the Lord put into you your spirit, he was begotten of a father, and brought forth as you and I were;" *(8 Oct 1854, B.Y. Addresses 2:231)*

"He was made as you and I are made" *(20 Apr 1856, JD 3:319)*

He was previously married, and was from another planet

Adam was originally from another planet

"he came from another world" *(17 Sep 1854, W.Woodruff Journal)*

"Adam and Eve had lived upon another Earth," *(6 May 1855, W. Woodruff Journal)*

"... parents who were first brought here from another planet" *(9 Oct 1859, JD 7:285-90)*

"He was made just the same way you and I are made, but on another earth. ... He had lived on an earth similar to ours. " *(7 Feb 1877, L.J. Nuttall Journal)*

Adam was married before coming here

"[Adam] brought Eve, one of his wives, with him." *(9 Apr 1852, JD 1:50)*

"[Adam] ... with his wives" *(8 Oct 1854, B.Y. Addresses 2:233)*

"There is no doubt but that he left many companions." *(31 Aug 1873,*

JD 16:167)

"He brought one of his wives with him, and she was called Eve, ... Father Adam came here, and then they brought his wife." *(8 Jun 1873, Deseret News)*

Adam's status during mortality on his home world

"he honored his calling, believed in his Savior, or elder brother, and by his faithfulness was redeemed ... he obeyed his master or Lord, and probably many of his wives did the same;" *(8 Oct 1854, B.Y. Addresses 2, however see TPJS 346-8,373 which some interpret to mean that he had been a Savior)*

"Adam had been with the *[his]* Lord and had lived with him upon an earth like this and had been faithful and overcome, and had received his body and was resurrected and was well acquainted with the Lord and was one of his mess mates." *(25 Apr 1855, B.Y. Addresses 3*)

"He had received the Priesthood and the keys thereof, and had been faithful in all things" *(Lecture at the Veil, 7 Feb 1877)*

He was immortal, but took upon aspects of mortality after eating the fruit

He was immortal before partaking of the fruits

"Adam and Eve ... were immortal when they came here." *(6 May 1855, W. Woodruff Journal)*

"Michael ... came to this Earth & with an immortal Body " *(27 Jan 1860, W. Woodruff Journal)*

"Adam was an immortal being when he came on this earth." *(7 Feb 1877, L.J. Nuttall Journal)*

"Adam and Eve when they were placed on this earth were immortal beings with flesh, bones, sinews." *(7 Feb 1877, L.J. Nuttall Journal)*

He became mortal through eating the fruits (to be able to have mortal children) -

"When Adam and Eve had eaten of the forbidden fruit, their bodies became mortal from its effects," *(9 Apr 1852, JD 1:50)*

"he [Adam] then partook of the fruits of the Earth and became Earthy" *(14 Mar 1852, Historian's Journal)*

"Adam ... partook of the fruits of the earth, begat children, and they were earthly and had mortal bodies." *(17 Sep 1854, W. Woodruff Journal)*

"Adam planted the Garden of Eden, and he with his wife Eve partook of the fruit of this Earth, until their systems were charged with the nature of the Earth, and then they could beget bodies for their spiritual children." *(8 Oct 1854, B.Y. Addresses 2:234)*

"Adam and Eve ... had to partake of the fruits of this Earth in order to bring forth mortal bodies, or natural bodies, that their seed might be of the dust of this Earth" *(25 Mar 1855, S.W. Richards Journal)*

"As soon as the devil was on earth he sowed the seeds of death in everything so as soon as they began to eat of the fruit of the earth they received into their system the seeds of mortality and of death so their children were mortal & subject to death, sorrow, pain and wo." *(6 May 1855, W. Woodruff Journal)*

"Michael ... came to this Earth with an immortal body & continued so till he partook of Earthly food and begat children who were mortal." *(27 Jan 1860, W. Woodruff Journal)*

"Adam ... suffered himself to take a body and descending below all things" *(12 May 1867, W. Woodruff Journal)*

"The bodies of Adam and Eve were pure and after the Celestial order until they partook of the forbidden fruit when their bodies were changed with the things of this world." *(25 Aug 1867, Meeting Minutes)*

"But upon partaking of the fruits of the earth while in the garden and cultivating the ground their bodies became changed from immortal to mortal beings with the blood coursing through their veins as the action of

life." *(7 Feb 1877, L.J. Nuttall Journal)*

The fall was planned, Adam and Eve did not sin it was a positive act

Adam knew he would 'fall' (i.e. leave the presence of the Gods and become 'mortal')

"if Adam had not sinned, and if his posterity had continued upon the earth, they could not have known sin, or the bitter from the sweet, neither would they have known righteousness, for the plain and simple reason that every effect can only be fully manifested by its opposite. ... In my fullest belief, it was the design of the Lord that Adam should partake of the forbidden fruit, and I believe that Adam knew all about it before he came to this earth." *(3 Jun 1855, JD 2:301-2)*

"Adam assisted in forming this earth and agreed to fall when he came here, and he fell that man might be." *(6 May 1855, W. Woodruff Journal)*

"I do not blame Mother Eve, I would not have had her miss eating the forbidden fruit for anything in the world. " *(8 June 1873, Deseret News)*

Adam is a resurrected & celestial (exalted) being

Adam was Resurrected

"by his faithfulness was redeemed, and obtained a glorious resurrection. ... Father Adam was a resurrected being." *(8 Oct 1854, B.Y. Addresses 2:232)*

"They had lived, died and been resurrected before they came here " *(25 Mar 1855, S.W. Richards Journal)*

"Michael was a resurrected Being" *(26 Jan 1860, W. Woodruff Journal)*

He had a Celestial Body

"When our father Adam came into the garden of Eden, he came into it with a celestial body," *(9 Apr 1852, JD 1:50)*

"The bodies of Adam and Eve were pure and after the Celestial order ..." *(25 August 1867, Minutes of Meeting)*

He was already exalted before coming to earth

"they lived and died upon an earth, and then were resurrected again to immortality and eternal life." *(8 Oct 1854, B.Y. Addresses 4:232)*

"I was faithful, I received my crown and exaltation." *(8 June 1873, Deseret News)*

"He had received the Priesthood and the keys thereof, and had been faithful in all things, and gained his resurrection and his exaltation, and was crowned with glory, immortality and eternal lives, and was numbered with the Gods, for such he became through his faithfulness." *(7 Feb 1877, L.J. Nuttall Journal)*

Adam is the 'Creator' of the earth

One of the primary creators

"he helped to make this world, and was the chief manager in that operation." *(20 Apr 1856, JD 3:319)*

"He helped to make the world, to organize this earth which was organized expressly for him." *(25 Aug 1867, B.Y. Addresses 5:77)*

"We say that Father Adam came here and helped to make the earth. Who is he? He is Michael, a great prince, and it was said to him by Eloheim, `Go ye and make an earth.' What is the great mystery about it? He came and formed the earth." *(8 Jun 1873, Deseret News)*

"When Father Adam came to assist in organizing the earth out of the crude material that was found, an earth was made upon which the children of men could live." *(31 Aug 1873, JD 16:167)*

"He was the first man on the earth, and its framer and maker. He, with the help of his brethren, brought it into existence." *(8 Jun 1873, Deseret News)*

"And then this world was organised by Eloheim, Jehovah and Michael,

who is Adam our common father." *(7 Feb 1877, L.J. Nuttall Journal)*

He brought animals and seeds with him -

"They came here, organized the raw material, and arranged in their order the herbs of the field, the trees, the apple, the peach, the plum, the pear, and every other fruit that is desirable and good for man; the seed was brought from another sphere, and planted in this earth." *(9 Apr 1852, JD 1:50)*

"He was the person who brought the animals and the seeds from other planets to this world," *(20 Apr 1856, JD 3:319)*

Adam is the Father of our spirits (as well as our bodies) and is our Heavenly Father

Father of Spirits

"Adam is the Father of our spirits ... our spirits and the spirits of all the human family were begotten by Adam and born of Eve. ... I tell you, when you see your Father in the Heavens, you will see Adam; when you see your Mother that bore your spirit, you will see Mother Eve." *(8 Oct 1854, B.Y. Addresses 2:232-3)*

"Adam and Eve are the parents of all pertaining to the flesh, and I would not say that they are not also the parents of our spirits." (*9 Oct 1859, JD 7:290)*

"the father of their spirits for that was our Father Adam." *(11 Dec 1869, Journal History)*

"Then He [Adam] said, "I want my children who are in the spirit world to come and live here." *(8 Jun 1873, Deseret News)*

"[Adam] ... had begotten all the spirits that was to come to this earth. And Eve our common mother, who is the mother of all living bore those spirits in the celestial world." *(7 Feb 1877, L.J. Nuttall Journal)*

He is our Father in Heaven

"He is our Father and our God, and the only God with whom We have to

do. ... And who is the Father? He is the first of the human family; ... the same character that was in the garden of Eden, and who is our Father in Heaven." *(9 Apr 1852, JD 1:50)*

"this does not overthrow the idea that we have a father. Adam is my father;" *(28 Aug 1852, JD 6:275)*

"Our God was no more or less than Adam, Michael the Archangel." *(19 Feb 1854, W. Woodruff Journal)*

"Adam was our God ... President Young said that he was," *(17 Sept 1854, W. Woodruff Journal)*

"Some have grumbled because I believe our God to be so near to us as Father Adam. There are many who know that doctrine to be true." *(7 Oct 1857, JD 5:331)*

"President Young said Adam was Michael the Archangel and ... was our God, and Joseph taught this principle." *(16 Dec 1867, W. Woodruff Journal)*

See also JD 4:217-9, JD 11:40-42, 14:111-12

<u>God is also father of bodies</u> -

"the Father actually begat the spirits, and they were brought forth and lived with Him. Then He commenced the work of creating earthly tabernacles, precisely as He had been created in this flesh himself, by partaking of the course material that was organized and composed this earth, until His system was charged with it, consequently the tabernacles of His children were organized from the coarse materials of this earth." *(8 Feb 1857, JD 4:217)*

"He is our Father; He is our God, the Father of our spirits; He is the framer of our bodies." *(25 Sep 1870, JD 13:250)*

"Do you not all know that you are the sons and daughters of the Almighty? If you do not I will inform you this morning that there is not a man or woman on the earth that is not a son or daughter of Adam and Eve. We all belong to the races which have sprung from father Adam and mother Eve; and every son and daughter of Adam and Eve is a son

and daughter of that God we serve." *(7 May 1871, JD 14:111-112)*

"God notices this world. He organized it, and brought forth the inhabitants upon it. We are his children, literally, spiritually, naturally, and in every respect." *(21 May 1871, JD 14:135-136)*

"Where is the divine who knows the least thing about that Being who is the Father of our Spirits and the author of our bodies?" *(18 May 1873, JD 16:45-46)*

Adam / God is the literal Father of Jesus Christ

Adam is the literal father of Jesus

"When the Virgin Mary conceived the child Jesus, the Father had begotten him in his own likeness. He was not begotten by the Holy Ghost. And who is the Father? He is the first of the human family ... Jesus, our elder brother, was begotten in the flesh by the same character that was in the garden of Eden, and who is our Father in Heaven." *(9 Apr 1852, JD 1:50-51)*

"He [Adam] was the Father of the Saviour Jesus Christ " *(19 Feb 1854, W. Woodruff Journal)*

"Adam was ... the Father of Jesus Christ. President Young said that he was," *(17 Sept 1854, W. Woodruff Journal)*

"Father Adam's oldest son (Jesus the Saviour) who is the heir of the family, is father Adam's first begotten in the spirit world, who according to the flesh is the only begotten as it is written." *(7 Feb 1877, L.J. Nuttall Journal)*

God is the literal Father of Jesus / married Mary

"I believe the Father came down from heaven, as the Apostles said He did, and begat the Saviour of the world; for he is the only-begotten of the Father, which could not be if the Father did not actually beget him in person." *(24 Jul 1853, JD 1:238)*

"When the time came that His first-born, the Saviour, should come into the world and take a tabernacle the Father came Himself and favoured

that spirit with a tabernacle instead of letting any other man do it. The Saviour was begotten by the Father of His spirit, by the same Being who is the Father of our spirits, and that is all the organic difference between Jesus Christ and you and me." *(8 Feb 1857, JD 4:218)*

"In His divinity He having gone back into the spirit world, and came in the spirit to Mary, and she conceived." *(7 Feb 1877, L.J. Nuttall Journal)*

We will one day people planets like Adam and Eve if we are righteous

Faithful Sisters will become Eves

"If you are faithful to your covenants, you will be mothers of nations. You will become Eves to earths like this; and when you have assisted in peopling one earth, there are millions of earths still in the course of creation." *(14 Oct 1860, JD 8:208)*

"if you can go into the hands of a man, that will lead you into the Kingdom of Heaven, and exalt you there to become an Eve - a Queen of Heaven - the wife of a God;" *(8 Oct 1861, B.Y. Addresses 4:140)*

"I ask this question of you, mother Eves, every one of you. If you are not sanctified and prepared, you ought to be sanctifying and preparing yourselves for the blessings in store for you when it will be said of you, this is Eve. Why? Because you are the mother of all living. You might as well prepare first as last. If you wish to be Eves and mothers of human families you ought to bear the burden." *(30 Jun 1867, JD 12:97)*

"Before me I see a house full of Eves. What a crowd of reflections the word Eve is calculated to bring up! Eve was the name or title conferred upon our first mother, because she was actually to be the mother of all the human beings who should live upon this earth. I am looking upon a congregation designed to be just such beings." *(1869, Millennial Star 31:267)*

Faithful brethren will become Adams

"and they which are thereafter [shall] receive our resurrected bodies and shall all have the privilege of going as Adam's [to] form an Earth and do

likewise " *(14 Mar 1852, Historian's Journal)*

"when you have the privilege of commencing the work that Adam commenced on this earth," *(8 Mar 1857, JD 4:271)*

"all have got to become Adams upon some Earth – or other." *(Historian's Office Journal, October 1, 1854, 17:148)*

"The President did not believe that Orson Pratt would ever be Adam, ... but that every person in the room would be if they lived faithful." *(Diary of Samuel Whitney Richards, March 11, 1856, p. 15)*

"when you have the privilege of commencing the work that Adam commenced on this earth, you will have all your children come and report to you of their sayings and acts; and you will hold every son and daughter of yours responsible when you get the privilege of being an Adam on earth." (8 March 1857, JD 4:271.)

"every faithful son of God, becomes, as it were, Adam to the race that springs from his loins, when they are embraced in the covenants and blessings of the Holy Priesthood;" *(6 Nov 1864, JD 10:355)*

<u>Men and Women will be Adam and Eves to worlds</u>

"If faithful a man will attain to an Adam and the Wife to be an Eve and beget millions of spirits who will come forth and receive their tabernacles upon an earth like this" *(8 Oct 1861, J. Beck Journal)*

"Yes, an Adam will have to go there, and he cannot do without Eve; he must have Eve to commence the work of generation, and they will go into the garden, and continue to eat and drink of the fruits of the corporeal world, until this grosser matter is diffused sufficiently through their celestial bodies to enable them, according to the established laws, to produce mortal tabernacles for their spiritual children." *(28 Aug 1862, JD 6:275)*

"will attain to [being] an Adam and the wife to be an Eve, and beget millions of spirits who will come forth and receive their tabernacles upon an earth like this" *(6 November 1864, JD 10:355.)*

"If we are ever exalted and crowned in the presence of God we shall

become Saviors of a world which we shall create and people." *(Manuscript Addresses, 12 May 1867.)*

"When they receive their crowns, their dominions, they then will be prepared to frame earths like unto ours and to people them in the same manner as we have been brought forth by our parents, by our Father and God." *(8 October 1876, JD 18:259.)*

The divine origin and importance of this doctrine

Brigham considered it a doctrine – not a theory

"Some years ago I advanced a doctrine with regard to Adam being our Father and God." *(8 Oct 1861, B.Y. Addresses 4:138)*

"Now, let all who here these doctrines pause before they make light of them ..." *(9 Apr 1852, JD 1:51)*

"There are those who know that doctrine to be true." *(7 Oct 1857, JD 5:331)*

Brigham learned this doctrine originally from Joseph Smith

"It was Joseph's doctrine that Adam was God ... God comes to earth and partakes of the fruit. Joseph could not reveal what was revealed to him." (*Brigham Young Papers, Meeting of Quorum of Twelve, 4 April 1860.)*

"President Young said Adam was Michael the Archangel and he was the Father of Jesus Christ and is our God and that Joseph taught this principle." (*16 December 1876, Meeting of School of Prophets, Wilford Woodruff Journal.)*

"Joseph said that Adam was our Father and God." *(Brigham Young Papers, 14 May 1876.)*

"I could not find any man on earth who could tell me this, although it is one of the most simplest things in the world, until I met and talked with Joseph Smith." *(Brigham Young, 18 June 1873, Deseret Weekly News 22:308.)*

These teachings were revealed by God to Brigham

"I tell you this about my belief about that personage who is called the Ancient of Days ... I did not understand so until my mind became so enlightened with the Spirit and by the revelations of God." *(25 April 1855, Deseret Theological Institute)*

"It is one of the most glorious revealments of the economy of heaven," *(8 Oct 1861, B.Y. Addresses 4:138)*

"What I know concerning God, ... I have received from the heavens, not alone through my natural ability," *(18 May 1873, JD 16:45-46)*

"How much unbelief exists in the minds of the Latter-day Saints in regard to one particular doctrine which I revealed to them, and which God revealed to me - namely that Adam is our Father and God." *(18 June 1873, Deseret News)*

Our exaltation (or damnation) is dependent on understanding and accepting this doctrine

"Now, let all who may hear these doctrines, pause before they make light of them, or treat them with indifference, for they will prove their salvation or damnation." *(9 April 1852, JD 1:50-1)*

"That will be a curse to many of the elders of Israel because of their folly with regard to it." *(8 Oct 1861, B.Y. Addresses 4:138)*

"These things of which I have been speaking are what are termed the mysteries of godliness but they will enable you to understand the expression of Jesus, made while in Jerusalem, "This is life eternal that they might know thee, the only true God and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent." *(7 Feb 1877, L.J. Nuttall Journal)*

The Spirit will confirm it's truthfulness

"Whether you receive these things or not, I tell you them in simplicity. I lay them before you like a child, because they are perfectly simple. If you see and understand these things, it will be by the Spirit of God; you will receive them by no other spirit. (By the same token no one can reject them with the spirit of the Lord.) No matter whether they are told to you like the thunderings of the Almighty or by simple conversation; if you

enjoy the Spirit of the Lord, it will tell you whether they are right or not. I am acquainted with my Father. I am as confident that I understand in part, see in part, and know and am acquainted with Him in part, as I am that I was acquainted with my earthly father ... I know my Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ whom He has sent, and this is eternal life." *(8 Feb 1857, JD 4:218)*

Selection of Brigham's Sermons on Adam

Date	Summary	Source
March 14, 1852	*Men will have privilege of being Adams*	Historian's Journal
April 9, 1852	*Adam had a celestial body*	J.D. 1:50
August 28, 1852	*Righteous will be Adams and Eves*	J.D. 6:275
October 23, 1853	*Adam not made from dust of this earth*	J.D. 2:6
Feb. 19, 1854	*Adam is the Father of Jesus Christ*	B.Y.A. 2:189
Sept. 17, 1854	*Adam came from another world*	B.Y.A. 2:219
October 8, 1854	*Adam is Father of spirits*	B.Y.A. 2:230
March 25, 1855	*Adam resurrected from other planet*	B.Y.A. 3:7
April 25, 1855	*Adam had lived on another earth*	B.Y.A. 3:12
May 6, 1855	*Adam lived upon an Earth*	B.Y.A. 3:14
April 20, 1856	*Adam born on another earth*	J.D. 3:319
February 8, 1857	*Heavenly Father brought forth our bodies*	J.D. 4:217
March 8, 1857	*having privilege of being an Adam*	J.D. 4:271
October 7, 1857	*Our God is Father Adam ... doctrine true*	J.D. 5:331
October 9, 1859	*Offspring of parents from another world*	J.D. 7:285
January 26, 1860	*Michael was a resurrected being*	Woodruff Journal
April 4, 1860	*God partakes of fruit on earth*	Minutes
October 14, 1860	*Faithful women will be Eves*	J.D. 8:208
October 8, 1861	*Folly of Elders towards Adam-God*	B.Y.A. 4:138
January 8, 1865	*Jesus is image of Ancient of Days*	J.D. 11:41
June 18, 1865	*God created children same way as we do*	J.D. 11:121
June 30, 1867	*Sanctified women will be Eves on worlds*	J.D. 12:97
August 25, 1867	*Mortal bodies prepared for spirit children*	B.Y.A. 5:77
Dec. 16, 1867	*Adam was Father of Jesus Christ*	B.Y.A. 5:103
February 4, 1869	*Women designed to be Eves*	B.Y.A. 5:141
Dec. 11, 1869	*Father of our spirits was Adam*	B.Y.A. 5:195
Sept. 25, 1870	*God the Father is framer of our bodies*	J.D. 13:250
May 7, 1871	*Sons of God are sons of Adam*	J.D. 14:111
May 21, 1871	*Naturally and literally Gods children*	J.D. 14:136
May 18, 1873	*Received knowledge of God from heavens*	J.D. 16:46
June 8, 1873	*Unbelief in Adam-God*	B.Y.A. 6:72
February 7, 1877	*Temple Lecture at the Veil*	L. Nuttall Journal
25 years		*32 Sermons*

See also - J.D. 6:332, 7:3, 8:208, 9:148, 9:283, 10:355, 16:167, 17:143, 18:257
B.Y.A. = Brigham Young Addresses / J.D. = Journal of Discourses

14 March 1852, Historian's Office Journal, p. 106

(Church Archives)

Brigham Young rolled out revelation upon revelation in regard to the creation of the world. Adam came to the Earth when he assisted to form it, he then partook of the fruits of the Earth and became earthy, and they which are thereafter [shall] receive our resurrected bodies and shall all have the privilege of going as Adams [to] form an Earth and do likewise.

9 April 1852, Journal of Discourses 1:50-1.[1]

Now hear it, O inhabitants of the earth, Jew and Gentile, Saint and sinner! When our father Adam came into the garden of Eden, he came into it with a celestial body, and brought Eve, one of his wives, with him. He helped to make and organize this world. He is MICHAEL, the Archangel, the ANCIENT OF DAYS! about whom holy men have written and spoken - He is our FATHER and our GOD, and the only God with whom WE have to do. Every man upon the earth, professing Christians or non-professing, must hear it, and will know it sooner or later. They came here, organized the raw material, and arranged in their order the herbs of the field, the trees, the apple, the peach, the plum, the pear, and every other fruit that is desirable and good for man; the seed was brought from another sphere, and planted in this earth. The thistle,

1 "Our Father begat all the spirits that were before any tabernacles were made. When our Father came into the garden, he came with his celestial body and brought one of his wives with him and eat of the fruit of the garden until he could beget a tabernacle. And Adam is Michael, our God, and all the god that we have anything to do with. They eat of this fruit and formed the first tabernacle that was formed. And when the Virgin Mary was begotten with child, it was by the Father and in no other way, only as we were begotten. I will tell you the truth as it is in God. The world don't know that Jesus Christ, our elder brother, was begotten by our Father in Heaven. Handle it as you please, it will either seal the salvation or damnation of man. " *(W. Woodruff Journal, B.Y.A. 2:105)*

"Brigham Young said that our spirits were begotten before that Adam came to the Earth, and that Adam helped to make the earth, that he had a Celestial body when he came to the earth, and that he brought his wife or one of his wives with him, and that Eve was also a Celestial being, that they eat of the fruit of the ground until they begat children from the Earth, he said that Adam was the only God that we would have, and that Christ was not begotten by the Holy Ghost, but of the Father Adam, that Christ was our Elder brother." *(Samuel Hollister Rogers Journal (16 April), B.Y.A. 2:105)*

"President B. Young taught that Adam was the father of Jesus and the only God to us. That he came to this world in a resurrected body &c. more hereafter." *(Diary of Hosea Stout (10 April) 2:432, B.Y.A. 2:106)*

the thorn, the brier, and the obnoxious weed did not appear until after the earth was cursed. When Adam and Eve had eaten of the forbidden fruit, their bodies became mortal from its effects, and therefore their offspring were mortal. When the Virgin Mary conceived the child Jesus, the Father had begotten him in his own likeness. He was not begotten by the Holy Ghost. And who is the Father? He is the first of the human family; and when he took a tabernacle, it was begotten by his Father in heaven, after the same manner as the tabernacles of Cain, Abel, and the rest of the sons and daughters of Adam and Eve; from the fruits of the earth, the first earthly tabernacles were originated by the Father, and so on in succession. I could tell you much more about this; but were I to tell you the whole truth, blasphemy would be nothing to it, in the estimation of the superstitious and over-righteous of mankind. However, I have told you the truth as far as I have gone. I have heard men preach upon the divinity of Christ, and exhaust all the wisdom they possessed. All Scripturalists, and approved theologians who were considered exemplary for piety and education, have undertaken to expound on this subject, in every age of the Christian era; and after they have done all, they are obliged to conclude by exclaiming "great is the mystery of godliness," and tell nothing.

It is true that the earth was organized by three distinct characters, namely, Eloheim, Yahovah, and Michael, these three forming a quorum, as in all heavenly bodies, and in organizing element, perfectly represented in the Deity, as Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Again, they will try to tell how the divinity of Jesus is joined to his humanity, and exhaust all their mental faculties, and wind up with this profound language, as describing the soul of man, "it is an immaterial substance!" What a learned idea! Jesus, our elder brother, was begotten in the flesh by the same character that was in the garden of Eden, and who is our Father in Heaven. Now, let all who may hear these doctrines, pause before they make light of them, or treat them with indifference, for they will prove their salvation or damnation.

28 August 1852, Journal of Discourses 6:275

After men have got their exaltations and their crowns - have become Gods, even the sons of God - are made Kings of kings and Lords of lords, they have the power then of propagating their species in spirit; and that is the first of their operations with regard to organizing a world. Power is then given to them to organize the elements, and then

commence the organization of tabernacles. How can they do it? Have they to go to that earth? Yes, an Adam will have to go there, and he cannot do without Eve; he must have Eve to commence the work of generation, and they will go into the garden, and continue to eat and drink of the fruits of the corporeal world, until this grosser matter is diffused sufficiently through their celestial bodies to enable them, according to the established laws, to produce mortal tabernacles for their spiritual children.

This is a key for you. The faithful will become Gods, even the sons of God; but this does not overthrow the idea that we have a father. Adam is my father; (this I will explain to you at some future time;) but it does not prove that he is not my father, if I become a God: it does not prove that I have not a father.

23 October 1853, Journal of Discourses 2:6-7

Ask yourselves whether you think this people would have received as much as they have received, if they never had been persecuted. Could they have advanced in the school of intelligence as far without being persecuted, as they have by being persecuted? Look for instance at Adam. Listen, ye Latter-day Saints! Supposing that Adam was formed actually out of clay, out of the same kind of material from which bricks are formed; that with this matter God made the pattern of a man, and breathed into it the breath of life, and left it there, in that state of supposed perfection, he would have been an adobie to this day. He would not have known anything.

Some of you may doubt the truth of what I now say, and argue that the Lord could teach him. This is a mistake. The Lord could not have taught him in any other way than in the way in which He did teach him. You believe Adam was made of the dust of this earth. This I do not believe, though it is supposed that it is so written in the Bible; but it is not, to my understanding. You can write that information to the States, if you please - that I have publicly declared that I do not believe that portion of the Bible as the Christian world do. I never did, and I never want to. What is the reason I do not? Because I have come to understanding, and banished from my mind all the baby stories my mother taught me when I was a child.

But suppose Adam was made and fashioned the same as we make adobies; if he had never drunk of the bitter cup; the Lord might have talked to him to this day, and he would have continued as he was to

all eternity, never advancing one particle in the school of intelligence. This idea opens up a field of light to the intelligent mind. How can you know truth but by its opposite, or light but by its opposite? The absence of light is darkness. How can sweetness be known but by its opposite, bitter? It is by this means that we obtain all intelligence. This is, "Mormonism," and it is founded upon all truth, upon every principle of true philosophy; in fact the Gospel of Jesus Christ is the only true philosophy in existence. There is not one particle of it that is not strictly philosophical, though you and I may not understand all the fulness of it, but we will if we continue faithful.

19 February 1854, Brigham Young Addresses 2:189[1]

I will notice another idea touching the Holy Ghost begetting the Son of God.

Who was it that spoke from the heaven and said "This is my beloved Son, hear him,"? Was it God the Father? It was. The Apostles bear testimony that such a voice was actually heard. This is my beloved son, and if it is true the Holy Ghost begat him I would add, which was begotten by one of my neighbors, hear ye him. Who was the Savior begotten by? O, by his Father or his brother, or some other person. So the Holy Ghost begetting the Savior looks to me. It makes me think of a story I heard in a dramatical performance once, that a certain individual was born of one of his Aunts, but he had no mother. It appears as reasonable to me to say a cousin or a fellow laborer of the Savior's begat him, as to say the Holy Ghost begat him. Who did beget him? His Father, and his father is our God, and the Father of our spirits, and he is the framer of the body, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Who is he? He is Father Adam, Michael, the Ancient of Days. Has he a father? He has. Has he a mother? He has. Now to say that the Son of God was begotten by the Holy Ghost, is to say the Holy Ghost is God the Father, which is inconsistent, and contrary to all the revelations of God both modern and ancient.

1 "He [Brigham Young] said that our God was Father Adam. He was the Father of the Saviour Jesus Christ - Our God was no more or less than Adam, Michael the Archangel." *(19 February 1854, Wilford Woodruff Journal, B.Y.A. 2:192)*

17 September 1854, B. Young Addresses 2:219

(Wilford Woodruff Journal)

[Orson] Pratt also thought that Adam was made of the dust of the earth. Could not believe that Adam was our God or the Father of Jesus Christ. President Young said that he was, that he came from another world and made this [planet], and brought Eve with him, partook of the fruits of the earth, begat children, and they were earthly and had mortal bodies. He told Brother Pratt to lay aside his philosophical reasoning and get revelation from God to govern him and enlighten his mind more...

8 October 1854, B. Young Addresses 2:230-235[1]

(Deseret News Weekly 22:308)

I began at the end, and shall probably finish at the beginning of my discourse; but it is no matter which end a man begins at, for the first shall be last and the last first; which proves it is one eternal round; it is one eternity. Eloheim looks round upon the eternity of matter, and said to His associates, and those that He was pleased to call upon at that time for His counselors, with regard to the Elements, Worlds, Planets, Kingdoms and Thrones; said He: "Yahovah Michael, see that Eternal Matter on all sides, this way and that way; we have already created Worlds upon Worlds, shall we create another World? Yes, go and organize the elements in yonder space"— not empty space for there is no such thing, once in a while, earth quakes, and the extensive destruction of combustible matter by fire will come nigh to making empty space for perhaps the millionth

1 "God is the father of all the spirits of all the people of this world. He is the father of the bodies also of the first inhabitants of the earth, also the father of the body of Jesus Christ. The first people of the earth were no more made of the dust than we are. I would not make out that Moses lied, by no means, but we are made of dust as much as Adam was; ... Our god, who is Adam, came and commenced the peopling of it. Though he is God, and has lived and died and been resurrected on some other planet, and obtained his exaltation and begat the spirits of children enough to people this world, he came down and brought some of the animal and vegetable productions of some other world so that they might grow and increase here. He, by eating the mortal fruits of the earth, produced mortal children, or commenced the increase of men on the earth, which are the bodies for the spirits to live in. An Adam and Eve are necessary for every world. The oldest Son, if faithful, is the Savior of the family. There are Lords many and Gods many, but the God that we have to account to, is the father of our spirits: Adam." *(John Pulsipher synopsis, p. 20-23, B.Y.A. 2:238)*
"... the Father of our Spirits is the Father of Jesus Christ: He is the Father of Jesus Christ, Spirit & Body and he is the beginner of the bodies of all men: ... there have always been an Adam and an Eve - the first man and woman, and their oldest son is heir, and should be our Savior. We have one Father and we all are brethren. ... Eloheim spoke, "Yehovah, Michael - see matter all around, go and organize a world," Yehovah Michael went and carried material: Then Michael came down with his wife, & began to people it. Michael had his body from the dust of the planet he was begotten on, he obeyed his Lord, was faithful and obedient, died and was resurrected, ... Adam shall have a fullness: Adam's descent was to organize people & redeem a world, by his wife he peopled it by his first born he redeems. ... Adam & Eve had children in the spirit - and their children married - brother & sister - then the bodies followed." *(Thomas D. Brown Diary / Journal of Southern Indian Mission, B.Y.A. 2:240.)*
*"*President Brigham Young said thus: That Adam and Eve were the names of the first man and woman of every earth that was ever organized and that Adam and Eve were the natural Father and Mother of every spirit that comes to this planet, or that receives tabernacles on this planet, consequently we are brothers and sisters, and that Adam was God, our Eternal Father." *(Joseph Lee Robinson Diary)*

part of a second— "Yahovah Michael, go and create a world, make it, organize it, form it; and then put upon it everything in all the variety that you have seen, that you have been in the habit of being associated with in other worlds, of beasts, birds, fowls, fish, and every insect, and creeping thing, and finally, when the whole eternity of element is full of life, bring it together and make of it living creatures."

Yahovah Michael goes and does as he is told. What I am now going to tell you, will no doubt astonish the whole of you. When Yahovah Michael had organized the world, and brought from another kingdom the beasts, fish, fowl, and insects, and every tree, and plant with which we are acquainted, and thousands we never saw - when He had filled the Earth with animal and vegetable life - Michael or Adam goes down to the new made world, and there he stays. ...

"Was he made of the dust of this earth."

No, but of the dust of the earth whereon he was born in the flesh; that is the way he was made; he was made of dust.

"Did the Lord put into him his spirit?"

Yes, as the Lord put into you your spirit, he was begotten of a father, and brought forth as you and I were; and so are all intelligent beings brought forth from eternity to eternity. Man was not made the same as you make an adobe and put in a wall. Moses said that Adam was made of the dust of the ground, but he did not say of what ground. I say he was not made of the dust of the ground of this Earth, but he was made of the dust of the earth where he lived, where he honored his calling, believed in his Saviour, or Elder Brother, and by his faithfulness was redeemed, and obtained a Glorious Resurrection. All creatures that dwell upon this Earth are made of the elements that compose it; which are organized to see if they will abide their creation, and be counted worthy to receive a resurrection. ...

I tell you more: Adam is the Father of our spirits. He lived upon an earth; he did abide his creation, and did honor to his calling and Priesthood. He obeyed his Master or Lord, and probably many of his wives did the same; they lived and died upon an earth, and then were resurrected again to Immortality and Eternal Life. ...

Many inquire, who is this Savior? I will tell you what I think about it. The Southerners say I reckon, and the Yankees say I guess; but I will tell you what I reckon. I reckon that Father Adam was a resurrected being, with his wives and posterity, and in the Celestial Kingdom they were crowned with Glory, Immortality and Eternal Lives, with Thrones, Principalities and Powers: and it was said to him, "It is your right to organize the elements; and to your Creations and Posterity there shall be

no end, but you shall add Kingdom to Kingdom, and Throne to Throne; and still behold the vast eternity of unorganized matter."

Adam then was a resurrected being; and I reckon that our spirits and the spirits of all the human family were begotten by Adam and born of Eve. ...

And I reckon that Adam came into the Garden of Eden, and did actually eat of the fruit that he himself planted; and I reckon that there was a previous understanding, and the whole plan was previously calculated, before the Garden of Eden was made, that he would reduce his posterity to sin, misery, darkness, wickedness, wretchedness, and to the power of the Devil, that they might be prepared for an Exaltation, for without this they could not receive one. ...

The inquiry will arise, among those who are strenuous, and tenacious for the account given by Moses, as to Adam: "Did not Adam die?"

Yes he died.

"Does not the Bible say he died?"

I do not know nor care, but it would be hard I think to find where he died; or where Moses died, though I have no doubt Moses died, and Adam also. How? Just as you and I have to die, and be laid away in the bowels of Mother Earth; that, however, Moses did not see fit to tell us.

Adam planted the Garden of Eden, and he with his wife Eve partook of the fruit of this Earth, until their systems were charged with the nature of the Earth, and then they could beget bodies for their spiritual children. If the spirit does not enter into the embryo man that is forming in the womb of the woman, the result will be false conception; a living, intelligent being cannot be produced. Adam and Eve begat the first mortal bodies on this Earth, and from that commencement every spirit that was begotten in eternity for this Earth will enter bodies thus prepared for them here, until the winding up scene, and that will not be until the last of these spirits enters an earthly tabernacle. ...

I am approaching the subject of our marriage relations Brother Hyde lectured upon, but I shall not have time, or strength to say much about this. But, I reckon that Father Adam, and Mother Eve had the children of the human family prepared to come here and take bodies; and when they come to take bodies, they enter into the bodies prepared for them, and that body gets an exaltation with the spirit, when they are prepared to be crowned in Father's Kingdom.

"What, into Adam's Kingdom?"

Yes. ...

I tell you, when you see your Father in the Heavens, you will see

Adam; when you see your Mother that bore your spirit, you will see Mother Eve. And when you see yourselves there, you have gained your exaltation; you have honored your calling here on the Earth; your body has returned to its mother Earth; and somebody has broken the chains that bound you, and given you a resurrection. ...

What will become of the world then? It will be baptized with fire. It has been baptized with water, and it will then be cleansed by fire, and become like a sea of glass, and be made Celestial; and Jesus Christ our Elder Brother will take the whole of the Earth, with all the Saints and go with them to the Father, even to Adam; and you will continue to receive more and more Intelligence, Glory, Exaltation, and Power.

25 March 1855, B. Young Addresses 3:7.

(Journal of Samuel W. Richards 2:215)

B. Young spoke to the meeting in a very interesting manner. ... Adam and Eve were made of the dust of the Earth from which they came, they brought their bodies with them. They had lived, died and been resurrected before they came here and they came with immortal bodies, and had to partake of the fruits of this Earth in order to bring forth mortal bodies, or natural bodies, that their seed might be of the dust of this Earth as they were of the dust of the earth from which they came. It was difficult to teach mankind the way of life. The Lord had to give but little at a time as much could not be received, and it is our duty to use that little so as to profit by it and be prepared for more when God should be willing to impart it to us.

25 April 1855, B. Young Addresses 3:12-13

We can read the history of Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden and that after they transgressed the Lord came along and they run scampering away into the bushes. How did they know it was him? Just as well as my family know mine, for they had lived with him and had a long experience with him. Just as soon as my family hear my footsteps they know that I am coming, and so did Adam and Eve know the footsteps of the Lord. Just as quick as they heard his footsteps they knew who was coming as though they had seen his face because they were acquainted with him. But this is no knowledge to you and I. He came along and said, where

are you, what have you been doing? They had hid themselves. It is evident from this that they knew his footsteps, but what advantage is that to you? Would you know the footsteps of the Lord if you heard them coming into this hall from merely reading this account? The Lord is capable of coming in at that door and sitting down and should it was some stranger.

Well, how can we learn by reading the history of Adam and Eve to know the Lord? If you were to hear the footsteps of the Lord would you know from the history of Adam and Eve that it was the Lord coming? They knew the Lord and his footsteps for they had lived with him and had been in eternity with him, and what I have upon this subject I now say: Adam had been with the Lord and had lived with him upon an earth like this and had been faithful and overcome, and had received his body and was resurrected and was well acquainted with the Lord and was one of his mess mates. He had eaten and drunk with him and had lived with him from generation to generation and in many worlds, probably while many had come into and gone out of existence. And he helped to make this earth and brought the seeds with him that you see springing up spontaneously. And when he called, the elements came rolling together.

Well you see from this when you and I have been with and lived with the Lord we shall know his voice. If father Adam was to come into this house and you were to see him go back and forth, would you know him? No, you would never mistrust it was him unless he revealed himself. But by the time that you have lived with him as long as Adam had before he came here you will know him and recognize his footsteps, but reading the history will not teach you these things, consequently I come right down to ourselves and say we cannot know the only wise God and Jesus Christ whom he has sent. No man can have this knowledge but those to whom God reveals it. Has he revealed it to you, who he is, what he has to do with this world and the relationship that he sustains to it? You must not be astonished when I tell you that the whole world, with the exception of the Latter-day Saints for they do know something about God, but the whole world besides are as far from that knowledge as the east is from the west. Though they read it in the bible yet it never enters into their hearts that the apostle told the truth when he said, “there is but one living and true God, the father of our spirits.” Well now who is the father of our spirits?

I do not design to go into any mysteries or to take up worldly sciences to any great extent, but suppose I were to take up a few of them, I should be like the rest of you: tell what I know according to what I understand and believe. And then if I am wrong I should be glad if God

or some man upon the earth would correct me and set me right and tell me what it is and how it is.

I did take the liberty to tell this once and I told it in a way that I did not get to their understandings and I suppose I take the same course this evening and you do not understand. But you have the spirit of the Almighty with you to enable you to appreciate. Or shall I talk it right out as one man talketh and reasoneth with another and in this manner communicate to you my ideas upon the subject? For instance: we begin with the father of our Lord Jesus Christ and of our spirits. Who is he? Do you know anything about him? Can you find out who he is? Suppose we go to the scriptures and enquire who he is. At one time he says, "I am that I am." At another time when the question was proposed by someone he replied, "I am the Lord your God." At another time he is spoken of as a "man of war," "a general," and so on. You may trace the scriptures through and you will find that he is known to one people [by] one title today and tomorrow and the next day by another and there he leaves it. If I were to set before you the principle directly to the truth and yet precisely as I understand pertaining to him with whom we have to do, I have no question or doubt but what it would be opposed to your traditions and the feelings of many of you. I will tell you what I think about some who will have something to do with us by and by, when Michael blows his trumpet and calls the world together we shall then be before him and we shall be perfectly satisfied that he can pass all the judgment that we shall want, and that the dominions of the wicked will want. And I have no doubt but the Saints that live and have lived from the days of Adam will be satisfied that he can give them kingdoms and power, thrones and dominions and influence in eternity. And when they get all that he can give they will be satisfied and say, "it's enough." If we can get to him, the ancient of days, whose hair is like wool, a man of age, a man of experience, and can learn of him to understand "I am that I am" we shall then hear him say, "I am your father and your leader. I will be your front and your rearward. I understand what this world is. I understand all about it. I have the government of the world in my hands although to a certain extent my opposer, my enemy, has gained a certain influence in the world." You will hear him say, "I am in the whirlwind at my pleasure. I ride upon the storms and I govern worlds. I set up one king and put another down and organize empires and overthrow them at my pleasure. I the Lord do all these things." When we come to that great and wise and glorious being that the children of Israel were afraid of, whose countenance shone so that they could not look upon him, I say when we get to him whom we could not look upon, to that man, that is I

conclude he was a man for it says that he had hands and you know men have hands. And it says that he put his hands out before Moses in the cleft of the rock until his glory passed by and would not suffer Moses to see his face but his parts only. Seeing then that he had parts I conclude that he was a man. When we can see that very character and talk and live with him in our tabernacles, if we are so fortunate as to get there, into his society, then we can say that to us there is but one living and true God and he is the father of our Lord Jesus Christ and of our spirits. And when we get back to him and learn that he is actually our father we shall not feel any anxiety to call upon anybody else for the blessings we are in need of. It is a subject I am aware that does not appear so clear to our understandings at present as we could wish it or as it will some day, and it is one that should not trouble us at all. All such things will become more clear to our minds by and by.

I tell you this as my belief about that personage who is called the ancient of days, the prince and so on. But I do not tell it because that I wish it to be established in the minds of others, though to me it is as clear as the sun. It is as plain as my alphabet. I understand it as I do the path to go home. I did not understand so until my mind became enlightened with the spirit and by the revelation of God, neither will you understand until our father in heaven reveals all these things unto you. To my mind and to my feelings those matters are all plain and easy to understand.

6 May 1855, B. Young Addresses 3:14

(Wilford Woodruff Journal)

I attended the Prayer-Circle where I had some interesting teaching from President Young in social conversation which was not reported. The following is a key to some of the principles he advanced. He referred to the preaching of Orson Pratt and Orson Hyde the sabbath before upon the subject of the resurrection. He said the identical particles of matter in which we had honored our spirits with, i.e., our tabernacles in which he had suffered, traveled, labored, and built up the kingdom of God, that would be the identical body and no other that would be raised from the grave to immortality and eternal life.

Adam and Eve had lived upon another Earth, were immortal when they came here. Adam assisted in forming this earth and agreed to fall when he came here, and he fell that man might be and the opposite principle to good, the devil, the serpent, the evil, was placed upon the earth that man might know the good from the evil, for without an

experience in these things man could not know the one from the other. As soon as the devil was on earth he sowed the seeds of death in everything so as soon as they began to eat of the fruit of the earth they received into their system the seeds of mortality and of death so their children were mortal & subject to death, sorrow, pain and woe. Then when they partook of life, joy, ease, and happiness, they would know how to prize it. Father Adam would never cease his labors to redeem his posterity and exalt them to all the glory they were capable of receiving. He did not doubt but that Father Adam knew in the beginning how many of his posterity would receive a Celestial glory and who they were and also a Terrestrial and a Telestial, yet man had his agency to act, choose & refuse good or evil as seemed him good and he would be rewarded according to his works. O. Pratt asks will Adam or any God continue to make worlds, people them, taste of death to redeem them - Answer: I have no doubt but it is his privilege but whether He will do it is a question in my mind. How then can his seed increase to all eternity through the increase of his posterity. Many other remarks were made by the President.

20 April 1856, Journal of Discourses 3:319

Make your own comparisons between the two people, think of the traditions of the two. How many nations were there in the days of Enoch? The very men who were associated with him had been with Adam; they knew him and his children, and had the privilege of talking with God. Just think of it.

Though we have it in history that our father Adam was made of the dust of this earth, and that he knew nothing about his God previous to being made here, yet it is not so; and when we learn the truth we shall see and understand that he helped to make this world, and was the chief manager in that operation.

He was the person who brought the animals and the seeds from other planets to this world, and brought a wife with him and stayed here. You may read and believe what you please as to what is found written in the Bible. Adam was made from the dust of an earth, but not from the dust of this earth. He was made as you and I are made, and no person was ever made upon any other principle.

Do you not suppose that he was acquainted with his associates, who came and helped to make this earth? Yes, they were just as familiar with each other as we are with our children and parents.

Suppose a number of our sons were going to Carson Valley to

build houses, open farms, and erect mills and workshops, and that we should say to them that we wish them to stay there five years, and that then we will come and visit them, when I go there will they be afraid of me? No, they would receive me as their father, just as Adam received his Father.

8 February 1857, Journal of Discourses 4:217-8

Now follow our fathers further back and take those who first came to the island of Great Britain, were they the same species of beings as those who came to America? Yes, all acknowledge this; this is upon natural principles. Thus you may continue and trace the human family back to Adam and Eve, and ask, "are we of the same species with Adam and Eve?" Yes, every person acknowledges this; this comes within the scope of our understanding.

But when we arrive at that point, a veil is dropped, and our knowledge is cut off. Were it not so, you could trace back your history to the Father of our spirits in the eternal world. He is a being of the same species as ourselves; He lives as we do, except the difference that we are earthly, and He is heavenly. He has been earthly, and is of precisely the same species of being that we are. Whether Adam is the personage that we should consider our heavenly Father, or not, is considerable of a mystery to a good many. I do not care for one moment how that is; it is no matter whether we are to consider Him our God, or whether His Father, or his Grandfather, for in either case we are of one species of one family and Jesus Christ is also of our species.

You may hear the divines of the day extol the character of the Saviour, undertake to exhibit his true character before the people, and give an account of his origin, and were it not ridiculous, I would tell what I have thought about their views. Brother Kimball wants me to tell it, therefore you will excuse me if I do. I have frequently thought of mules, which you know are half horse and half ass, when reflecting upon the representations made by those divines. I have heard sectarian priests undertake to tell the character of the Son of God, and they make him half of one species and half of another, and I could not avoid thinking at once of the mule, which is the most hateful creature that ever was made, I believe. You will excuse me, but I have thus thought many a time.

Now to the facts in the case; all the difference between Jesus Christ and any other man that ever lived on the earth, from the days of Adam until now, is simply this, the Father, after He had once been in the

flesh, and lived as we live, obtained His exaltation, attained to thrones, gained the ascendancy over principalities and powers, and had the knowledge and power to create - to bring forth and organize the elements upon natural principles. This He did after His ascension, or His glory, or His eternity, and was actually classed with the Gods, with the beings who create, with those who have kept the celestial law while in the flesh, and again obtained their bodies. Then He was prepared to commence the work of creation, as the Scriptures teach. It is all here in the Bible; I am not telling you a word but what is contained in that book.

Things were first created spiritually; the Father actually begat the spirits, and they were brought forth and lived with Him. Then He commenced the work of creating earthly tabernacles, precisely as He had been created in this flesh himself, by partaking of the course material that was organized and composed this earth, until His system was charged with it, consequently the tabernacles of His children were organized from the coarse materials of this earth.

When the time came that His first-born, the Saviour, should come into the world and take a tabernacle, the Father came Himself and favoured that spirit with a tabernacle instead of letting any other man do it. The Saviour was begotten by the Father of His spirit, by the same Being who is the Father of our spirits, and that is all the organic difference between Jesus Christ and you and me. And a difference there is between our Father and us consists in that He has gained His exaltation, and has obtained eternal lives. The principle of eternal lives is an eternal existence, eternal duration, eternal exaltation. Endless are His kingdoms, endless His thrones and His dominions, and endless are His posterity; they never will cease to multiply from this time henceforth and forever.

To you who are prepared to enter into the presence of the Father and the Son, what I am now telling will eventually be no more strange than are the feelings of a person who returns to his father's house, brethren, and sisters, and enjoys the society of his old associates, after an absence of several years upon some distant island. Upon returning he would be happy to see his father, his relatives and friends. So also if we keep the celestial law when our spirits go to God who gave them, we shall find that we are acquainted there and distinctly realize that we know all about that world.

Tell me that you do not know anything about God! I will tell you one thing, it would better become you to lay your hands upon your mouths, and them in the dust, and cry, “unclean, unclean.”

Whether you receive these things or not, I tell you them in

simplicity. I lay them before you like a child, because they are perfectly simple. If you see and understand these things, it will be by the Spirit of God; you will receive them by no other spirit. No matter whether they are told to you like the thunderings of the Almighty, or by simple conversation; if you enjoy the Spirit of the Lord, it will tell you whether they are right or not.

I am acquainted with my Father. I am as confident that I understand in part, see in part, and know and am acquainted with Him in part, as I am that I was acquainted with my earthly father who died in Quincy, Illinois, after we were driven from Missouri. My recollection is better with regard to my earthly father than it is in regard to my heavenly Father; but as to knowing of what species He is, and how He is organized, and with regard to His existence, I understand it in part as well as I understand the organization and existence of my earthly father. That is my opinion about it, and my opinion to me is just as good as yours is to you; and if you are of the same opinion you will be satisfied as I am.

8 March 1857, Journal of Discourses 4:271-2

It is said to be eternal life, "to know the only wise God, and Jesus Christ whom He has sent." I will tell you one thing, as brother Hyde has said, it would be an excellent plan for us to go to work and find out ourselves, for as sure as you find out yourselves, you will find out God, whether you are Saint or sinner. A man cannot find out himself without the light of revelation; he has to turn round and seek to the Lord his God, in order to find out himself. If you find out who Joseph was, you will know as much about God as you need to at present; for if He said, "I am a God to this people," He did not say that He was the only wise God. Jesus was a God to the people when He was upon earth, was so before he came to this earth, and is yet. Moses was a God to the children of Israel, and in this manner you may go right back to Father Adam.

If you look at things spiritually, and then naturally, and see how they appear together, you will understand that when you have the privilege of commencing the work that Adam commenced on this earth, you will have all your children come and report to you of their sayings and acts; and you will hold every son and daughter of yours responsible when you get the privilege of being an Adam on earth.

Suppose that one of us had been Adam, and had peopled and filled the world with our children, they, although they might be great

grandchildren, &c., still, say I, had I been Adam, they would be my flesh, blood, and bones, and have the same kind of a spirit put into them that is in me. And pertaining to the flesh they would all be my children, and I would call them to account, and by and bye I would call every one of them home. They would have to render up to father an account, that he may know what their works have been on earth, for man is judged according to his works on the earth.

Comparing spiritual with temporal things, it must be that God knows something about temporal things, and has had a body and been on an earth, were it not so He would not know how to judge men righteously, according to the temptations and sin they have had to contend with. If I can pass brother Joseph, I shall stand a good chance for passing Peter, Jesus, the Prophets, Moses, Abraham, and all back to Father Adam, and be pretty sure of receiving his approbation. If I can pass all this ordeal, shall I not be pretty safe? I think I shall.

When we get before father Adam and the innumerable company that will come before him - when we draw near to the Ancient of Days with the rest of his children, and receive his approbation, shall we not be safe? If we can pass the sentinel Joseph the Prophet, we shall go into the celestial kingdom, and not a man can injure us. If he says, "God bless you, come along here;" if we will live so that Joseph will justify us, and say, "Here am I, brethren," we shall pass every sentinel; there will be no danger but that we will pass into the celestial kingdom. Will we all become Gods, and be crowned kings? No, my brethren, there will be millions on millions, even the greater part of the celestial world, who will not be capable of a fulness of that glory, immortality, eternal lives and a continuation of them, yet they will go into the celestial kingdom. Will this people all go into that kingdom? I think a good many will have to be burnt out like an old pipe, before they can go into any decent kingdom.

7 October 1857, Journal of Discourses 5:331-332

Their belief reminds me that brother Joseph B. Nobles once told a Methodist priest, after hearing him describe his god, that the god they worshipped was the "Mormons'" Devil - a being without a body, whereas our God has a body, parts, and passions. The Devil was cursed and sent down from heaven. He has no body of his own; therefore he is constantly endeavouring to obtain possession of the tabernacles belonging to others. Some have grumbled because I believe our God to be so near to us as Father Adam. There are many who know that

doctrine to be true. Where was Michael in the creation of this earth? Did he have a mission to the earth? He did. Where was he? In the Grand Council, and performed the mission assigned him there. Now, if it should happen that we have to pay tribute to Father Adam, what a humiliating circumstance it would be! Just wait till you pass Joseph Smith; and after Joseph lets you pass him, you will find Peter; and after you pass the Apostles and many of the Prophets, you will find Abraham, and he will say, "I have the keys, and except you do thus and so, you cannot pass;" and after a while you come to Jesus; and when you at length meet Father Adam, how strange it will appear to you present notion. If we can pass Joseph and have him say, "Here; you have been faithful, good boys; I hold the keys of this dispensation; I will let you pass;" then we shall be very glad to see the white locks of Father Adam. But those are ideas which do not concern us at present, although it is written in the Bible - "This is eternal life, to know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent."

9 October 1859, Journal of Discourses 7:290

The whole object of the creation of this world is to exalt the intelligences that are placed upon it, that they may live, endure, and increase for ever and ever. We are not here to quarrel and contend about the things of this world, but we are here to subdue and beautify it. Let every man and woman worship their God with all their heart. Let them pay their devotions and sacrifices to him, the Supreme, and the Author of their existence. Do all the good you can to your fellow-creatures. You are flesh of my flesh and bone of my bone. God has created of one blood all the nations and kingdoms of men that dwell upon all the face of the earth: black, white, copper-coloured, or whatever their colour, customs, or religion, they have all sprung from the same origin; the blood of all is from the same element. Adam and Eve are the parents of all pertaining to the flesh, and I would not say that they are not also the parents of our spirits.

9 October 1859, Journal of Discourses 7:285-286

Jesus Christ says, "And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom thou has sent." We are not now in a capacity to know him in his fulness of glory. We know a few things

that he has revealed concerning himself, but there are a great many which we do not know. When people have secured to themselves eternal life, they are where they can understand the true character of their Father and God, and the object of the creation, fall, and redemption of man after the creation of this world. These points have ever been subjects for speculation with all classes of believers, and are subjects of much interest to those who entertain a deep anxiety to know how to secure to themselves eternal life. Our bodies are organized from the eternity of matter, from such matter as we breathe, and from such matter as is found in the vegetable and mineral kingdoms. This matter is organized into a world, with all its appendages, by whom? By the Almighty; and we see it peopled by men and women who are made in the image of God.

All this vast creation was produced from element in its unorganized state; the mountains, rivers, seas, valleys, plains, and the animal, vegetable, and mineral kingdoms beneath and around us, all speaking forth the wonderful works of the Great God. Shall I say that the seeds of vegetables were planted here by the Characters that framed and built this world - that the seeds of every plant composing the vegetable kingdom were brought from another world? This would be news to many of you. Who brought them here? It matters little to us whether it was John, James, William, Adam, or Bartholomew who brought them; but it was some Being who had power to frame this earth with its seas, valleys, mountains, and rivers, and cause it to teem with vegetable and animal life.

Here let me state to all philosophers of every class upon the earth, When you tell me that father Adam was made as we make adobies from the earth, you tell me what I deem an idle tale. When you tell me that the beasts of the field were produced in that manner, you are speaking idle words devoid of meaning. There is no such thing in all the eternities where the Gods dwell. Mankind are here because they are the offspring of parents who were first brought here from another planet, and power was given them to propagate their species, and they were commanded to multiply and replenish the earth. The offspring of Adam and Eve are commanded to take the rude elements, and, by the knowledge God has given, to convert them into everything required for their life, health, adornment, wealth, comfort, and consolation. Have we the knowledge to do this? We have. Who gave us this knowledge? Our Father who made us; for he is the only wise God, and to him we owe allegiance; to him we owe our lives. He has brought us forth and taught us all we know. We are not indebted to any other power or God for all our great blessings.

26 January 1860, Wilford Woodruff's Journal

President Young said Michael was a resurrected Being and he left Eloheem and Came to this Earth & with an im[mor]tal Body & continued so till he partook of Earthly food and begat Children who were mortal. (Keep this to yourselves). Then they died.

4 April 1860, Minutes of Meeting

(of members of the Quorum of Twelve and others) at Historian's Office

Your statements to night, you come out tonight and place them as charges, and have as many against me as I have you. One thing I have thought that I might still have omitted: It was Joseph's doctrine that Adam was God etc. When in Luke Johnson's at Orson Hydes, the power came upon us, or shock that alarmed the neighborhood. God comes to earth and eats and partakes of fruit. Joseph could not reveal what was revealed to him, and if Joseph had it revealed, he was not told to reveal it. The Spirit is sent when the mother feels earth, God put it into his mouth, and when God, to translate he had the power. Not a contradictory thing in what I have said.

14 October 1860, Journal of Discourses 8:208

Let me here say a word to console the feelings and hearts of all who belong to this Church. Many of the sisters grieve because they are not blessed with offspring. You will see the time when you will have millions of children around you. If you are faithful to your covenants, you will be mothers of nations. You will become Eves to earths like this; and when you have assisted in peopling one earth, there are millions of earths still in the course of creation. And when they have endured a thousand million times longer than this earth, it is only as it were the beginning of your creations. Be faithful, and if you are not blest with children in this time, you will be hereafter. But I would not dare tell you all I know about these matters, though I know but little: still I am not a fool in the things of God, neither is brother Taylor, though he saw so much to learn that he did not realize that he had learned anything. We have learned a great deal, although we are still but babes and sucklings in the things of God; yet the truth and knowledge we possess pertaining to the plan of salvation ontweigh [outweigh] all possessed by others on the

earth. Be faithful, and you will delight in the things of God, and bear the yoke - carry the burden God has placed on you to bear.

8 October 1861, B. Young Addresses 4:138-140

I will give you a few words of doctrine upon which there has been much inquiry and with regard to which considerable ignorance exists. Br. Watt will write it, but it is not my intention to have it published, therefore pay good attention and store it up in your memories.

Some years ago I advanced a doctrine with regard to Adam being our Father and God. That will be a curse to many of the elders of Israel because of their folly with regard to it. They yet grovel in darkness, and will. It is one of the most glorious revealments of the economy of heaven, yet the world hold it [in] derision. Had I revealed the doctrine of baptism for the dead instead [of] Joseph Smith, there are men around me who would have ridiculed the idea until doomsday, but they are ignorant and stupid, like the dumb ass.

... I wish to say to my young sisters, if you can go into the hands of a man that will lead you into the kingdom of heaven and exalt you there, to become an Eve, a queen of heaven, the wife of a god, and you can remain with that man whom your soul delights, and you take to him your virginity, you have obtained a treasure that millions of worlds like this could not buy from you, for there is your glory to all eternity. Trifle with this matter and you will reap sorrow and affliction. When you make your choice of a husband for time and eternity and you are sure you have got your choice, hang on to him and not come to me for a bill of divorcement which amounts to nothing at all. I have told you the only ways that a woman can be freed from a man. There are other items pertaining to this doctrine you will learn from time to time. Many have asked for this matter which I have opened to you. You have got it. Let it envail your noble hearts, expand your capacities, aid subduing your ungovernable passions and encourage everything within you that is godlike and enables you to live a pure and holy life. The whole of mankind according to the words of the prophets anciently, have gone a whoring after strange gods. They worship they know not what. Men can sin with their wives by violating the law by which we are. This law is pure and holy, and every act of our lives should be to promote that and not destroy it. We should preserve the life that is within us and permit it to multiply. If any other course is pursued in the midst of this people, the curse of God will come upon those who do it. We will now adjourn.

Amen.

8 January 1865, Journal of Discourses 11:40-42

I will now say a few words relating to the subject which was presented to the people this morning. Inquiries were made by the speaker, why we have not seen God; why we are subject to sin; why we are in this fallen world? I will briefly answer these queries. If our Father and God should be disposed to walk through one of these aisles, we should not know him from one of the congregation. You would see a man, and that is all you would know about him; you would merely know Him as a stranger from some neighboring city or country. This is the character of Him whom we worship and acknowledge as our Father and God: when He is disposed to visit a house, a neighborhood, or a congregation, He does it at His pleasure; and although He may be seen by mortals in this character, yet no man can see Him in His glory and live. When the Lord sends an angel to visit men, He gives him power and authority to appear to the people as a man, and not as an angel in his glory; for we could not endure the presence even of an angel in his glory. No mortal man has ever seen God in His glory at any time and lived. We may have seen the Lord and angels many times, and did not know it. I will be satisfied with seeing and associating with His children whom I now behold, for there is not a son or daughter of Adam and Eve before me to-day but what is the offspring of that God we worship. He is our Heavenly Father; He is also our God, and the Maker and upholder of all things in heaven and on earth. He sends forth His counsels and extends His providences to all living. He is the Supreme Controller of the universe. At His rebuke the sea is dried up, and the rivers become a wilderness. He measures the waters in the hollow of His hand, and meteth out heaven with a span, and comprehendeth the dust of the earth in a measure, and weigheth the mountains in scales, and the hills in a balance; the nations to Him are as a drop in a bucket, and He taketh up the isles as a very little thing; the hairs of our heads are numbered by Him, and not a sparrow falleth to the ground without our Father; and He knoweth every thought and intent of the hearts of all living, for He is everywhere present by the power of His Spirit - His minister the Holy Ghost. He is the Father of all, is above all, through all, and in you all; He knoweth all things pertaining to this earth, and He knows all things pertaining to millions of earths like this.

If Jesus should veil His glory and appear before you as a man, and witness of himself as being the image of his Father, would you

believe that he was really Jesus Christ and that he told you the truth? And if you believed His words, would you not wonder exceedingly to hear that our Father and God is an organized being after the fashion of man's organization in every respect? Such, however, is the case. One of the prophets describes the Father of us all; saying, "I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garment was white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool; his throne was like the fiery flame," etc. The prophet further says, "thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him," etc. Again, "and, behold, one like the Son of Man came with the clouds of heaven and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him." Now, who is this Ancient of days? You may answer this question at your pleasure, I have already told the people. But the Savior would answer the question as to the appearance of the Father of us all, by saying, "Look at me, for I am the very express image of my Father." Then if the Father is precisely like his Son Jesus Christ, where is the man here in the flash that is precisely like the Savior? We have not seen Him in person, but there are men on the earth who have seen Him in vision. As to whether the Savior has got a body or not is no question with those who possess the gift and power of the Holy Ghost, and are endowed with the Holy Priesthood; they know that he was a man in the flesh, and is now a man in the havens; He was a man subject to sin, to temptation, and to weaknesses; but He is now a man that is above all this - a man in perfection.

18 June 1865, Journal of Discourses 11:121-123

We believe in a Deity who is incorporated-who is a Being of tabernacle, through which the great attributes of His nature are made manifest. It is supposed by a certain celebrated philosopher that the most minute particles of matter which float in space, in the waters, or that exist in the solid earth, particles which defy the most powerful glasses to reveal then to the vision of finite man, possess a portion of divinity, a portion of infinite power, knowledge, goodness and truth, and that these qualities are God, and should be worshipped wherever found. I am an infidel to this doctrine. I know the God in whom I believe, and am willing to acknowledge Him before all men. We have persons in this church who have preached and published doctrines on the subject of the Deity which are not true. Elder Orson Pratt has written extensively on the doctrines of this church, and upon this particular doctrine. When he writes and

speaks upon subjects with which he is acquainted and understands, he is a very sound reasoner; but when he has written upon matters of which he knows nothing - his own philosophy, which I call vain philosophy - he is wild, uncertain, and contradictory. In all my public administration as a minister of truth, have never yet been under the necessity of preaching, believing or practising doctrines that are not fully and clearly set forth in the Old and New Testaments, Book of Doctrine and Covenants, and Book of Mormon.

...

I believe that the declaration made in these two scriptures is literally true. God has made His children like Himself to stand erect, and has endowed them with intelligence and power and dominion over all His works, and given them the same attributes which He Himself possesses. He created man, as we create our children; for there is no other process of creation in heaven, on the earth, in the earth, or under the earth, or in all the eternities, that is, that were, or that ever will be. As the Apostle Paul has expressed it, "For in Him we live, and move, and have our being." "Forasmuch then as we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Godhead is like unto gold, or silver, or stone, graven by art or man's device." There exist fixed laws and regulations by which the elements are fashioned to fulfill their destiny in all the varied kingdoms and orders of creation, and this process of creation is from everlasting to everlasting. Jesus Christ is known in the scriptures as the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth, and it is written of Him as being the brightness of the Father's glory and the express image of His person. The word image we understand in the same sense as we do the word in the 3rd verse of the 5th chapter of Genesis, "And Adam lived an hundred and thirty years, and begat a son in his own likeness, after his image." I am quite satisfied to be made aware by the scriptures, and by the Spirit of God, that He is not only the God and Father of Jesus Christ, but is also the Father of our spirits and the Creator of our bodies which bear His image as Seth bore the image of his father Adam. Adam begat many children who bore His image, but Seth is no doubt more particularly mentioned, because he was more like his father than the rest of the family.

30 June 1867, Journal of Discourses 12:97-98

Now, the sermon which I design preaching to the ladies comes right before me. It is said - "If it were not for your obnoxious doctrine of

plurality of wives we could believe in the rest very well." It is not that. That is not the touchstone at all, but it is because our wives and daughters cannot be seduced; it is because this people are strictly moral, virtuous, and truthful. Now, taking the history of creation as given by Moses, let me ask the question - "Mother Eve, did you not partake of the forbidden fruit, as also did Adam, and thus bring sin and iniquity into the world?" "O, yes," says mother Eve. Then, why cannot you bear the affliction of it? Why not say - "If I was the cause of bringing evil into the world, I will firmly bear all that God puts upon me, and maintain His word and His law, and so work out my salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God working within me. I ask this question of you, mother Eves, every one of you. If you are not sanctified and prepared, you ought to be sanctifying and preparing yourselves for the blessings in store for you when it will be said of you, this is Eve. Why? Because you are the mother of all living. You might as well prepare first as last. If you wish to be Eves and mothers of human families you ought to bear the burden. But you say this is cruel. No, it is not cruel at all. Is there a passion in man that he cannot subdue for the sake of the gospel of salvation, that he may be crowned with glory, immortality, and eternal lives? Shame on the elder who, if duty calls, cannot go and preach the gospel until he winds up his earthly career and never permit a female to kiss him. I do not wish to say much upon this subject, but I say, woe to you Eves if you proclaim or entertain feelings against this doctrine! Woe to every female in this Church who says, "I will not submit to the doctrine that God has revealed." You will wake up by and by and say, "I have lost the crown and exaltation I might have gained had I only been faithful to my covenants and the rvelations [revelations] which God gave. I might have been crowned as well as you, but now I must go to another kingdom." Be careful, O, ye mothers in Israel, and do not teach your daughters in future, as many of them have been taught, to marry out of Israel. Woe to you who do it; you will lose your crowns as sure as God lives. Be careful! "Well," but say you, "these men, these elders of Israel, have it all their own way." That is not so, and we are not going to have it all our own way, unless our way is to do just right. And the man and woman who set up their will against the providence of God, will be found wanting when accounts are squared. they will have to say, "the summer is past, the harvest is ended, and we have not received our crowns." Will you think of this, sisters, you who are not married as well as you who are? I have a good many daughters, but it would be better for every one of my daughters, and for every female in this Church, to marry men who have proved themselves to be men of God, no matter how many wives

they have, than to take these miserable characters who are running around here. For myself, I desire to please God, whether it is ever to see another wife or child while I live or not. Have I proved it? Yes, God, the heavens, and the Saints know it. When Joseph called upon me and my brethren here, we were always ready. We made it a point ever to be ready to leave fathers, mothers, sisters and brothers, wives and children to go and preach the gospel to a perishing world, and save as many as would hearken to our counsel. We have proved this years ago. We have been willing to leave all for the sake of the gospel, and therein the Lord has made us rich. But who is going to complain about it?

25 August 1867, B. Young Addresses 5:77[1]

One of the best men I ever saw in my life. I knew him when a Methodist, and as a Mormon elder, one of the first Mormon elders I ever saw, and as good a man as ever lived. Yet he did not know enough to hoe a row of potatoes six feet across without getting on to a dozen rows. Yet he was right good preacher and the Holy Ghost did not teach him how to hoe potatoes and get his living because these principles and powers were put in our possession to improve upon and learn without asking the Lord to be our schoolmaster. True he learned our parents how to sew up the fig leaves and then they learned how to make themselves garments of the skins of animals. Whole Br. Orson Pratt was telling you a good deal about this great holy wedding, the first that was ever celebrated, I thought about Father Adam. He helped to make the world, to organize this earth which was organized expressly for him. He is the King and the Lord of this earth. When he came here he came with an understanding that he would do just as you and I do. He would go to sleep and dream for six hours. What we call dreaming are the reflections of the mind in sleep that cannot be remembered at all times when in a state of wakefulness. We come to this world and forget the past and commence anew. When the people are prepared to profit by the knowledge which the Lord has revealed there is much to be told them, but I will say this to you: every spirit that is prepared to accept a body on this earth has been born of parents in heaven and that which is born of the spirit is spirit.

1 "Pres. Young was pleased with the teachings that had been given during this conference. Referred to the fall of man. The bodies of Adam and Eve were pure and after the Celestial order until they partook of the forbidden fruit when their bodies were changed with the things of this world. Adam helped organize this world for an inheritance for himself and posterity." *(25 August 1867, Minutes of Meeting, Provo Bowery, BYU Microfilm Room.)*

When Father Adam and Mother Eve became mortal by eating of the fruits of this earth, they were then prepared [to organize] the mortal tabernacle and they were prepared to organize and form living spirits long before that. Now they are prepared to form mortal bodies for their spiritual children to dwell in. His former works and experience Adam had forgotten a great deal of, but he once knew it all, beforehand. As to the great wedding Bro. Orson has been telling us about, it is nothing more or less than this: Adam's father came to him saying "Here is the wife you have had so long. Now you are going to have one wife to take with you to yonder earth and if any of your other wives ever go to an earth to become the mother of all living, to become an Eve, it will be another earth, not to that one." She is called Eve because she is the mother of all living and she is the Queen of that earth. Adam is the Lord of the earth and the Father of all living on this earth as Eve is the mother of all living on this earth. There is much to learn on these matters and it is pleasant to know concerning them. Yet we should concern ourselves more about this: Will we as Latter-day Saints sanctify ourselves and become one so as to be able to receive the blessings which the Lord has for us. I care little about those theories. We may know and understand many of them but what will it profit us unless we serve God? Nothing at all.

16 December 1867, B. Young Addresses 5:103

(Wilford Woodruff Journal)

President Young said Adam was Michael the Archangel and he was the father of Jesus Christ and was our God, and Joseph taught this principle.

4 February 1869, B. Young Addresses 5:141

(Millennial Star 31:267)

Before me I see a house full of Eves. What a crowd of reflections the word Eve is calculated to bring up! Eve was the name or title conferred upon our first mother, because she was actually to be the mother of all the human beings who should live upon this earth. I am looking upon a congregation designed to be just such beings.

11 December 1869, B. Young Addresses 5:195

(Wilford Woodruff Journal)

The following is a synopsis of President Young's remarks:

...Some have thought it strange what I have said concerning Adam, but the period will come when this people of [the] faithful will be willing to adopt Joseph Smith as their Prophet, Seer, Revelator and God, but not the father of their spirits for that was our Father Adam.

25 September 1870, Journal of Discourses 13:250

We believe in our Father, and do not apply this term to a nonentity - to a fancied something that never existed; the application would not be correct. We do not so use language. We use this term to a being, and we claim this title as children. He is our Father; He is our God, the Father of our spirits; He is the framer of our bodies, and set the machine in successful operation to bring forth these tabernacles that I now look upon in this building, and all that ever did or ever will live on the face of the whole earth.

This is the doctrine taught by the ancients, taught by the prophets, taught by Jesus, taught by his Apostles, taught by Joseph Smith, thought by those who believe the same doctrine that Joseph Smith believed in - the revelations that God has given in modern times, who believe in that Being after whose image and in whose likeness man was formed, framed and made, precisely like Him that made him. This is the doctrine. To believe that He lives; He is a Being of place, of habitation. He dwells at home; His influence fills immensity to us; His eye is upon all His works, and He sends forth His ministers to administer here and there according to His will and pleasure. He has given His son, according to His good pleasure, to redeem the earth, and all intelligent beings thereon, and all inanimate matter, if there is any such thing; to redeem the whole earth and all pertaining to it, and it is His good pleasure to do it. The reasons why He did it are plain and obvious, though we may not say anything about them to-day; yet there are reasons for all this, and that that we may call eternal philosophy, God's philosophy, the philosophy of angels - natural philosophy, reasonable philosophy, that that commends itself to the human mind, to the intelligence that man possesses, will explain it. If men understood the religion that we believe in they would receive it; it naturally commends itself to the conscience of every just and righteous person, and none

much would refuse it if they understood it.

7 May 1871, Journal of Discourses 14:111-112

I am under obligation to take a course which will sustain life within myself and others, on rational principles, without any special manifestation from God. You can all see this; but some think if they do not receive some special manifestation from God that he has accepted them, they are rejected of him. Do you not all know that you are the sons and daughters of the Almighty? If you do not I will inform you this morning that there is not a man or woman on the earth that is not a son or daughter of Adam and Eve. We all belong to the races which have sprung from father Adam and mother Eve; and every son and daughter of Adam and Eve is a son and daughter of that God we serve, who organized this earth and millions of others, and who holds them in existence by law. Now suppose he does not tell us that he particularly loves us and thinks so much of us; or that he delights in Brother James or William, or in Sister Susan or Nancy more than in any other being on the earth, what of it? I do not know that I shall inquire of the Lord whether he loves me or not. I do not know that I have ever taken pains to ask him. I have professed religion somewhere near fifty years, and I do not know that I ever asked the Lord whether he loved me or not. I want to take a course that I can love purity and holiness. If I do this, then I love the Lord and keep his commandments, and that is enough for me. If he is not disposed to like me as well as he did John, "the beloved disciple," who leaned upon his breast on a certain occasion, and tells me to sit yonder instead of here, it is all right, I am as satisfied to sit there as here. I want to preserve my identity and to increase in intelligence, and if I can do this I do not know that I care, particularly, with regard to how much, in weight or measure, the Lord loves me or does not love me. There is one fact that I do know, he will love me all he should. If I take a course to love him and keep his commandments I am for life and duration, I am for eternity, for I take that course which will preserve myself.

21 May 1871, Journal of Discourses 14:135-136

These are the promptings of the devil; but when the spirit in man yields obedience and brings the flesh into subjection the Spirit of the Lord is then ready to whisper to the individual, "This is the way, walk ye in it;"

and such individuals can go on their way rejoicing, regardless of those who cry, " Lo! here is Christ," or "Lo! there is Christ;" for the Spirit will teach them that Jesus is the Christ and that the Bible is true. It may not all have been translated aright, and many precious things may have been rejected in the compilation and translation of the Bible; but we understand, from the writings of the of the Apostles, that if all the sayings and doings of the Savior had been written, the world could not contain them. I will say that the world could not understand them. They do not understand what we have on record, nor the character of the Savior, as delineated in the Scriptures; and yet it is one of the simplest things in the world, and the Bible, when it is understood, is one of the simplest hooks in the world, for, as far as it is translated correctly, it is nothing but truth, and in truth there is no mystery save to the ignorant. The revelations of the Lord to his creatures are adapted to the lowest capacity, and they bring life and salvation to all who are willing to receive them. They are so simple that the high-minded and those lifted up in their own estimation will say, "I cannot get down so low as that." If they pray, they dare not ask for the things they want. I have known a great many individuals who dare not ask God the Father in the name of Jesus Christ if the doctrine we preach is true. They have a conviction within them that it is true, and they say, "If we ask we shall receive the witness we ask for, and then we shall have no excuse whatever for not obeying it." I have had it said to me, "I am sorry I have learned so much, sorry I have had so much revealed. I wish I was as ignorant as I was a few years ago." What will be the condition of such individuals? Ignorance will be their portion. Let him that is ignorant remain ignorant still. The Gospel will do them no good; but they who are honest before the Lord, and ask in the name of Jesus, will receive a testimony, and know that Jesus is the Christ. Flesh and blood will not reveal this to them, neither will the sciences of the day; it can only be known by the spirit of revelation. The kingdom of God and its mysteries are and can be known only to him to whom God reveals them, and I hope and pray that we are or may be among that number. It is very customary to pray to the Lord, but in my petitions I pray a great deal to the Latter-day Saints, or those who profess to be. When traveling and preaching I frequently pray the people, in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God. I pray you, my hearers, to ask the Father, in the name of Jesus, whether these things be true or not. I cannot pray the Father that he will compel you to know; it would be no use for the Father to compel you to know the truth. All must be willing to ask for and receive it. The fountain is open, truth is ready, its streams are waiting and desirous to come and testify to every

individual on the earth who is willing to be taught that Jesus is the Christ, the Gospel is true, God is true, life and salvation are true. We are here upon this earth - upon this little dark, opaque body; if we were in some of the celestial kingdoms and were to look at this earth it would not appear larger, probably, than just a little speck, a black marble! Who can notice such an insignificant affair? God notices this world. He organized it, and brought forth the inhabitants upon it. We are his children, literally, spiritually, naturally, and in every respect. We are the children of our Father; Jesus is our elder brother, ready to save all who will come to him. By and by the Lord will purify the earth, and it will become pure and holy, like a sea of glass; then it will take its place in the rank of the celestial ones, and be recognized as celestial; but at the present time it is a dark, little speck in space.

18 May 1873, Journal of Discourses 16:45-46

Now, on another subject. There is a God who lives, and who framed and fashioned this earth, and who brought forth that which is on the face thereof. He has laws, Every- thing is controlled by law. The actions of men, however, are left free; they are agents to themselves and must act freely on that agency, or else how could they be judged for their actions? But God reserves the right to himself to control the results of their acts, and this no man can hinder. Who of the Christian divines know anything about the God we serve? I never saw any one, until I met Joseph Smith, who could tell me anything about the character, personality and dwelling-place of God, or anything satisfactory about angels, or the relationship of man to his Maker. Yet I was as diligent as any man need to be to try and find out these things. We know more about God and the heavens than we care to tell. And if we introduce a principle and try to reduce it to the comprehension of the people, there will be some even among the Latter-day Saints who would be hard to understand. Where is the divine who knows the least thing about that Being who is the Father of our Spirits and the author of our bodies? If we know something about him is there any harm in it? Not a bit. The world of mankind are infidels. We should all be infidel to every false principle. I am infidel in regard to many things, but to the truth, wherever found, I am no infidel. The Christian world is infidel to the truth in a great degree. Why? Because they know so little of the mind and will of God. Step outside of this kingdom, and who can tell us the first process towards covering the earth with the knowledge of God? Who is there that can tell us anything

about that angel whom John saw coming with the everlasting Gospel as recorded in John's Revelations? I never found any one who could till I saw Joseph Smith. He could tell me what I had so much desired to learn. What do the Christian divines know about it even at the present day? If they do know anything about it I wish they would tell us. But if they do not know, and will not receive the things of God from those who do know, does not this make them infidels to the truth?

My testimony is the positive. I know that there are such cities as London, Paris, and New York - from my own experience or from that of others; I know that the sun shines, I know that I exist and have a being, and I testify that there is a God, and that Jesus Christ lives, and that he is the Savior of the world. Have you been to heaven and learned to the contrary? I know that Joseph Smith was a Prophet of God, and that he had many revelations. Who can disprove this testimony? Any one may dispute it, but there is no one in the world who can disprove it. I have had many revelations; I have seen and heard for myself, and know these things are true, and nobody on earth can disprove them. The eye, the ear, the hand, all the senses may be deceived, but the Spirit of God cannot be deceived; and when inspired with that Spirit, the whole man is filled with knowledge, he can see with a spiritual eye, and he knows that which is beyond the power of man to controvert. What I know concerning God, concerning the earth, concerning government, I have received from the heavens, not alone through my natural ability, and I give God the glory and the praise. Men talk about what has been accomplished under my direction, and attribute it to my wisdom and ability; but it is all by the power of God, and by intelligence received from him. I say to the whole world, receive the truth, no matter who presents it to you.

8 June 1873, B. Young Addresses 6:72-75

(Deseret Weekly News 22:308-9)

I wanted to make a few remarks upon the subject touched upon by my brother, but I shall not have the time. I frequently think, in my meditations, how glad we should be to instruct the world with regard to the things of God, if they would hear, and receive our teachings in good and honest hearts and profit by them. I have been found fault with a great many times for casting reflections upon men of science, and especially upon theologians, because of the little knowledge they possess about man being on the earth, about the earth itself, about our Father in heaven, his Son Jesus Christ, the order of heavenly things, the laws by which

angels exist, by which the worlds were created and are held in existence, etc. How pleased we would be to place these things before the people if they would receive them! How much unbelief exists in the minds of the Latter-day Saints in regard to one particular doctrine which I revealed to them, and which God revealed to me - namely that Adam is our father and God - I do not know, I do not inquire, I care nothing about it. Our Father Adam helped to make this earth, it was created expressly for him, and after it was made he and his companions came here. He brought one of his wives with him, and she was called Eve, because she was the first woman upon the earth. Our Father Adam is the man who stands at the gate and holds the keys of everlasting life and salvation to all his children who have or who ever will come upon the earth. I have been found fault with by the ministers of religion because I have said that they were ignorant. But I could not find any man on the earth who could tell me this, although it is one of the simplest things in the world, until I met and talked with Joseph Smith. Is it a great mystery that the earth exists? Is it a great mystery, that the world cannot solve, that man is on the earth? Yes, it is; but to whom? To the ignorant those who nothing about it. It is no mystery to those who understand. Is it a mystery to the Christian world that Jesus is the Son of God, and still the son of man? Yes it is, it is hidden from them, and this fulfills the Scripture - "If our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost," who have no faith, and who pay no attention to the Spirit of God. These things are called mysteries by the people because they know nothing about them, just like laying hands on the sick. Is it a mystery that fever should be rebuked and the sick healed by the laying on of the hands of a man who is endowed with authority from God and has been ordained to that gift? "Oh yes," say the ignorant, "we know nothing about it." That is true, but where is the mystery? Will the ignorant receive the truth when they hear it? No, they will not, and this is their condemnation, that light has come into the world, and they choose darkness rather than light, because their deeds are evil. That is the fact in the case. What is the mystery about it? They do not understand invisible things. Ask the wicked, "Do you know anything about the laying on of hands?" "Oh yes, such a man" - a man who is wicked in his whole life - "has the art of laying on of hands for curing the tooth-ache, fevers, wounds," etc.; and now, in fulfillment of the words of the ancient prophet, thousands of people seek unto "wizards who peep and mutter," etc., but they will not seek unto the living God. I can say to all the inhabitants of the earth that before what is called spiritualism was ever known in America I told the people that if they would not believe the revelations that God had given he would suffer the devil to give

revelations that they - priests and people - would follow after. Where did I declare this? In the cities of New York, Albany, Boston, throughout the United States and in England. Have I seen this fulfilled? I have. I told the people that as true as God lived, if they would not have truth they would have error sent unto them, and they would believe it. What is the mystery of it?

The Christian world read of, and think much about, St. Paul, also St. Peter, the chief of the Apostles. These men were faithful to and magnified the priesthood while on the earth. Now, where will be the mystery, after they have passed through all the ordeals, and have been crowned and exalted, and received their inheritances in the eternal worlds of glory, for them to be sent forth, as the Gods have been for ever and ever, with the command - "Make yourselves an earth, and people it with your own children?" Do you think the starry heavens are going to fall? Do the Christian world or the heathen world think that all things are going to be wrapped up, consumed, and annihilated in eternal flames? Oh fools, and slow of heart to believe the great things that God has purposed in his own mind!

My brother said that God is as we are. He did not mean those words to be literally understood. He meant simply, that in our organization we have all the properties in embryo in our bodies that our Father has in his, and that literally, morally, socially, by the spirit and by the flesh we are his children. Do you think that God, who holds the eternities in his hands and can do all things at his pleasure, is not capable of sending forth his own children, and forming this flesh for his own offspring? Where is the mystery in this? We say that Father Adam came here and helped to make the earth. Who is he? He is Michael, a great prince, and it was said to him by Eloheim, "Go ye and make an earth." What is the great mystery about it? He came and formed the earth.

Geologists tell us that it was here millions of years ago. How do they know? They know nothing about it. But suppose it was here, what of it? Adam found it in a state of chaos, unorganized and incomplete. Philosophers, again, in talking of the development of the products of the earth, for instance, in the vegetable kingdom, say the little fibres grew first, then the larger vegetation. When this preparatory stage was completed then came the various orders of the animal creation; and finally man appeared. No matter whether these notions are true or not, they are more or less speculative. Adam came here and got it up in a shape that would suit him to commence business. What is the great mystery about it? None, that I have seen. The mystery in this, as with miracles, or anything else, is only to those who are ignorant. Father

Adam came here, and then they brought his wife. "Well," says one, "why was Adam called Adam?" He was the first man on the earth, and its framer and maker. He, with the help of his brethren, brought it into existence. Then he said, "I want my children who are in the spirit world to come and live here. I once dwelt upon an earth something like this, in a mortal state. I was faithful, I received my crown and exaltation. I have the privilege of extending my work, and to its increase there will be no end. I want my children that were born to me in the spirit world to come here and take tabernacles of flesh, that their spirits may have a house, a tabernacle or a dwelling place as mine has," and where is the mystery?

Now for mother Eve. The evil principle always has and always will exist. Well, a certain character came along, and said to Mother Eve, "The Lord has told you that you must not do so and so, for if you do you shall surely die. But I tell you that if you do not do this you will never know good from evil, your eyes will never be opened, and you may live on the earth forever and ever, and you will never know what the Gods know." The devil told the truth, what is the mystery about it? He is doing it today. He is telling one or two truths and mixing them with a thousand errors to get the people to swallow them. I do not blame Mother Eve, I would not have had her miss eating the forbidden fruit for anything in the world. I would not give a groat if I could not understand light from darkness. I can understand the bitter from the sweet, so can you. Here is intelligence, but bind it up and make machines of its possessors, and where is the glory or exaltation? There is none. They must pass through the same ordeals as the Gods, that they may know good from evil, how to succor the tempted, tried and weak, and how to reach down the hand of mercy to save the falling sinner.

... There is no mystery to me in what God has revealed to me or in what I have learned, whether it has been through Joseph, an angel, the voice of the Spirit, the Holy Ghost or the Spirit of the Lord; no matter how I have learned a thing, if I understand it perfectly it is no mystery to me. It is like making one of these pulpits, or a house like this. This is no mystery to me, I dictated it, and a great many say it is a great piece of architecture to have a single span, so large as this roof and composed of wood that will sustain itself. But it is no mystery to me. I know the strength of the materials and how to place them together. It is no mystery to me to build a temple or a common house. But you take a gentleman or lady who was never beyond the confines of a densely populated city, who never saw wheat grow, and who never saw cattle in the fields, and it is a great mystery to them to see them. Why? Because they never saw such things before, and they know nothing about them, but it is no

mystery to those who know all about such things. Do you think it any mystery to angels to know how the various organizations are brought on earth? Not the least in the world. There is no mystery in all this to the Gods, no mystery in them to the prophets and apostles whom they send, and to whom they reveal them; it is all plain, every day, common sense, just as much so as with anything else in the world - we understand it.

The Lecture at the Veil, 1877

(Part of the Temple Endowment ceremony until ~1905)

"Works in the Temple being under consideration President Young was filled with the Spirit of God and revelation and said ...

In the creation the gods entered into an agreement about forming this earth, and putting Michael or Adam upon it.

These things of which I have been speaking are what are termed the mysteries of godliness but they will enable you to understand the expression of Jesus, made while in Jerusalem, "This is life eternal that they might know thee, the only true God and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent."

We were once acquainted with the Gods and lived with them, but we had the privilege of taking upon us flesh that the spirit might have a house to dwell in. We did so and forgot all, and came into the world not recollecting anything of which we had previously learned.

We have heard a great deal about Adam and Eve; how they were formed and etc. Some think he was made like an adobe and the Lord breathed into him the breath of life, for we read: "from dust thou art and unto dust shalt thou return." Well, he was made of the dust of the earth, but not of this earth. He was made just the same way you and I are made, but on another earth.

Adam was an immortal being when he came on this earth. He had lived on an earth similar to ours. He had received the Priesthood and the keys thereof, and had been faithful in all things, and gained his resurrection and his exaltation, and was crowned with glory, immortality and eternal lives, and was numbered with the Gods, for such he became through his faithfulness. And (he) had begotten all the spirits that was to come to this earth. And Eve our common mother, who is the mother of all living bore those spirits in the celestial world. And then this world was organised by Eloheim, Jehovah and Michael, who is Adam our common father.

Adam and Eve had the privilege to continue the work of progression, consequently came to this earth and commenced the great work of forming tabernacles for those spirits to dwell in. And when Adam and those that assisted him had completed this kingdom our earth, he came to it and slept and forgot all and became like an infant child.

It is said by Moses the historian that the Lord caused a deep sleep to come upon Adam, and took from his side a rib and formed the woman that Adam called Eve. This should be interpreted that the man Adam like all other men had the seed within him to propagate his species, but not the woman; She conceives the seed, but she does not produce it; consequently she was taken from the side or bowels of her father. This explains the mystery of Moses' dark sayings in regard to Adam and Eve.

Adam and Eve when they were placed on this earth were immortal beings with flesh, bones, sinews. But upon partaking of the fruits of the earth while in the garden and cultivating the ground their bodies became changed from immortal to mortal beings with the blood coursing through their veins as the action of life.

Adam was not under transgression until after he partook of the forbidden fruit; this was necessary that they might be together, that man might be. The woman was found in transgression not the man. Now in the law of Sacrifice we have the promise of a Saviour and Man had the privilege and showed forth his obedience by offering the first fruits of the earth and the firstlings of the flocks; this as showing that Jesus would come and shed his blood.

Father Adam's oldest son (Jesus the Saviour) who is the heir of the family, is father Adam's first begotten in the spirit world, who according to the flesh is the only begotten as it is written. (In His divinity He having gone back into the spirit world, and came in the spirit to Mary, and she conceived. For when Adam and Eve got through with their work on this earth, they did not lay their bodies down in the dust, but returned to the spirit world from whence they came."

"... when he finally passed upon it *[he]* said: This is the Lecture at the Veil to be observed in the Temple. A copy of the lecture is kept at the St. George Temple, in which President Young refers to Adam in his creation &c." *(Diary of L. John Nuttall (Secretary to First Pres.), February 7th, 1877 & 3 June 1892.)*